

POST MORTEM

OPINIONS

R O O S E V E L T



Quakro, Neb., Aug. 1, 1920
562 South 35 St.

Compliments of Augusta
Erwin with best wishes

Erwin, Augusta
"

POST MORTEM OPINIONS

By
THEODORE ROOSEVELT

American Metaphysical Association
Sioux City, Iowa

c1920

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PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

THE party who dictated the manuscript of this volume says he is the late Col. Theodore Roosevelt. The contents of this volume is the only proof we have to offer.

We do not claim nor pretend that he wrote it. It was written down by Augusta Erwin at the dictation of someone who she could not see, but who said he is the party to whom we have given the credit.

The large number of subjects dealt with and the unique manner in which they are handled is the best proof.

PREFACE

THIS book will be composed entirely of messages from the spirit of Col. Theodore Roosevelt. This preface is being dictated by Chas. G. Kuhlman, spiritual guide of Augusta Erwin, through whose spiritual power this volume is compiled.

It is the greatest gift that can be bestowed on mortal—that of actually conversing with the living dead—and I from spirit land will say that that gift in its highest sense and power has been bestowed on my daughter Augusta, through whose physical hand we spirits can write, she recording as we give, respecting our judgment as to proper wording, etc.

This volume will be typed as a manuscript just as received, beginning this third day of February, 1919.

I, from spirit land, have dictated this preface to my daughter. The rest of the volume I will leave to the discretion of the Colonel.

In making this assertion before receiving even so much as one word of a message from him, I am not taking haphazard chance on his

acquiescence, as I have already talked over with him the advisability of this work being written. It not only met with his entire approval, but with enthusiasm on his part as well.

Nothing more that I can add will tend to make this work clearer to your mind, so I bid you all good evening.

Yours in spirit since 1914,

CHAS. G. KUHLMAN, M. D.

POST MORTEM OPINIONS

CHAPTER I

THE SILENCE

BACK from the great silence I come in a way that will prove to be a surprise to all, and to all I wish to convey my heartiest regards. I am not dead, I was but resting for a brief period.

Death, the very word conjures up terrors for the uninitiated, but death is but a transition from one state into another, and the words that are uttered at almost every funeral have a far deeper meaning than the average mind can grasp.

O grave, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting? The victory is all on the side of the one dying, he or she gaining everything through the simple act of dying.

Some fight death for a long period, as did I, but could they but realize what death really means, it would have no terror for them. I fought it off with strength and vigor of will mostly, but when I finally saw that Gabriel was the stronger of the two, I acquiesced and went with him without a struggle.

I'll fight as long as I think I am right in fighting against a thing, or person, but when I see that I am on the wrong side of the fence I try to give up as best and easiest I can. I lived and I died following this same principle. Now I will try to re-live again and I feel sure that my policy will prove as well here as it did there on earth.

MY FUNERAL

My funeral was simple as I wished no display, and I want to thank the sincere friends who wept for my departure from amongst their midst that day. When strong men can be brought to shed tears over the exit of another it shows that friendship was not but an outward symbol, but that it must have been engrained in their hearts. I expected no such deep feeling on the part of those to whom I especially wish to convey these felicitations, although the expressions of the countless admirers of my policies and of my so-called virility was not more than I would expect upon the news of my death, as would it be on the death of any man of prominence before public eye, and to say that I was prominent always before the public is but stating a fact, not trying to make an assertion.

TO FRIENDS

To my family and to my friends I wish to send my greetings from this great spirit land,

unknown to them in flesh but inhabited by a far greater majority of souls than is the mortal earth today. They will, no doubt, be skeptical at first of the authenticity of these words as being sent by me from spirit land, but I am sure that enough proof can be given them that will in time satisfy their every doubt. My one regret, and one that I am afraid will never be remedied, is absolute proof that certain individuals are given the power by their Creator to converse with the living spirits of the so-called dead. It is but simple conversing, but because of the fact that all are not given this wonderful power, few can really understand, and while many believe in spirit, it usually takes strong tests to prove that all is straight. This, no doubt, is due to abuses that are practiced by some to fake and fleece the public, but it should be an easy matter to judge between the true and the false by the quality of the messages and also in many cases by the manner of receiving.

Had I been possessed of but an inkling of what is clear to me now, I could have been the most indomitable figure for good in America, but it does not seem to be God's plan to have mortal man know more than He thinks best.

GOD'S PLAN

There is a God as surely as there is a visible sun by day and stars and moon by night. A

spirit father, guardian of all, regardless of race, color or creed. He is not unjust. He exacts nothing from man beyond man's power to do. He asks no sacrifice of man beyond that of man's strength to make, and when the great summons comes that calls man home to Him, He does not tax man with sins that man was powerless to avert, nor does He hold him guilty for technicalities, but He does make man understand that He is Master as well as Father, and man must obey.

If man has transgressed on earth, he must pay for his transgressions here in full measure, working out his salvation according to his sins. He is not looked down upon, nor is he shunned, but he is not allowed the freedom and the peace that is accorded others in a more advanced stage of purity. He is allowed to raise himself to a level with those to whom he will be most congenial and who will be to him the most congenial companions. Each has his plane and lives here a life that is quite a bit on the same order as earthly life, although without the little worries and the bigger burdens and trials of earthly existence. Of course, we all live here in a finer state of being, even our dwelling places, beautiful as they are, are but forms, but you of earth, are you any surer that you are living in physical existence, and that what you feel sure is material substance, than are we? Physical life is but a dream state after

all, and we of spirit life miss nothing by the change but the fetterment of the body and the petty ills of physical life.

All that goes into the making of an ideal existence we have here. Homes of beauty, adorned with all we could hope for in any existence, beautiful flowers to make our outlook more beautiful, loved ones around us again, friends that we have lost through death we find again, memories that to us were sweet on earth are here brought back again into realities, companions we have on every side of worth and of congeniality. God himself watching over us with loving care as a shepherd his flock, or a father his children. No sights or sounds of a disturbing nature, all is tranquility to those who wish it so, each man or woman giving the best that is in them in love and in guardianship to those on earth best beloved by them, and each one allowed to carry out his or her own plans according as they think best, something which I am sorry to add is impossible on earth.

To those fortunate enough to be able to carry out their plans as they see them on earth, this will prove surprising, as it will show them that others are equipped as well, if not in some cases better, mentally to carry out ideas, but are prevented from lack of capital to carry them through.

Money is the one great handicap on earth,

or should I say the lack of money is, as without its help no one can accomplish much; but here all that is changed. There is no exchange of money, no talk of wealth beyond wealth of love and happiness. There is no eternal striving after position, power and display. No golden goal for which to bicker and fight. There is a certain goal, it is true, but that can be reached by all through their own efforts, and these efforts are not base, striving to outdo a rival, or to climb the ladder of success ahead of another.

All have an equal chance here to reach the plane for which they are fitted, and they reach that through purity based on service, and having reached their final place they find perfect contentment without jealousies or bickerings. They mingle with fellow spirits of the same mentality and class, each pursuing his own spirit life as he sees fit, with love as a guide. If earth could be run on this same plan, how much nicer it would be, but then I am afraid that if earth were as is this land of spirit life, I am afraid all would be loath to leave it, and this place would have no extraordinary charm. God knows best. He built the earth. He peopled the earth and He runs the earth on His own plan. We of spirit, or you of mortal life, can change this plan not one atom. The mills of God grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly small. I can give you this little glimpse into

this life I so lately entered, but I cannot tell all of its wonders in such a way that mortal mind could really grasp every detail. I have not been asked to curtail my descriptions, but words of earthly coining are not large enough to word what I would like to convey.

MY SON

I have met many former friends who had passed away before my call. I have been reunited with those of my closely related loved ones, and I have clasped to my heart my son who lost his life in France.

CHAPTER II

SOLDIERS

I HAVE seen the mighty band whose lives were given in the cause. They are a mighty host, but undaunted and supreme. No mother, father, wife or other kindred need feel sorrow at their loss. Cut off in the prime of manhood, it seemed and seems to the living, that theirs was a great sacrifice, with all life before them, to be cut down as unheaded wheat in a hail storm, but theirs was not the loss. They have gained by the great transition, and though the world can see nothing yet of the true gains that will arise through the death of these noble boys, it will come in the end. They have not given their lives needlessly, though it seems a dastardly crime that any one nation could have been the means of turning the world topsy-turvy, and in doing so to shed the blood of the flower of manhood of almost every civilized nation.

To fight and die on the battlefield is not so bad for a man. He can expect to be called to his nation's assistance at any time, but to fight a foe to whom neither child or age was sacred, and one that respected nothing it seemed, was like fighting against the very old Devil himself.

Could he have conceived a worse type of fighting craft than the undersea boat that lurked beneath the waves ever ready to pounce and to strike at an undefended craft, regardless whether it be passenger or merchant ship, and then, having struck, to leave the few survivors to their fate on the ocean? That form of warfare truly belonged in the Devil's category. As if this was not enough, they must use another of his weapons, gas in all forms.

I was heartily in favor of intervention long before the United States went into the war, but I see now that had my plans carried as I would liked to have been able to have put them through, there would have been not much more gained than is the case now, but there would have been more loss of American lives.

Our boys are brave unto recklessness. They never stopped to count the cost, but are in warfare as they are in all pursuits of life, strenuous and virile. If a job has to be done by someone and they are elected for it, they do not dilly-dally over what its final cost will be, but they pitch right in and get it over with dispatch. Why live in trenches soaking in mud and reeking in filth, waiting for the Germans to advance and kill or maim them, when it would be far easier and over with quicker to go right out and meet the foe on common ground. Death, if it was to come, would meet them in the trench as on the highway. This

is the sum and substance of the reasoning of the boys who went over in that big offensive that settled the war, and I give it in this condensed form, although the stories I have heard from their spirit lips have been interesting in the extreme and varied as to detail, but I know that you will read the history of the great drive, and it would be but a waste of time for me to repeat their stories now, but I want to send their message to the waiting world. It is brief, but it conveys a world of meaning:

SOLDIERS' MESSAGE TO YOU

“Mourn not for us who gave our lives in the great cause. We are not dead, nor do we sleep where poppies grow. We live and we do not regret our part in making the world a better place for mortals. We do not ask retribution for our lives, but we do ask that we shall be heard and we ask that justice should be done to those we fought and died for. Let men live as brothers in peace hereafter, and let our memories always stand as the beacon light.”

With united voices they gave me this message, and I send it along in their own words. You on earth can interpret it as you will. They are not bitter against their late foes, nor do they seem to seek revenge on anyone. By their asking justice they mean that what is just and no more should be required of the German nation. You must remember that it is the com-

mon people, the hard working and the thrifty, that must in the end pay for all the mistakes and the treacheries of their former rulers. They did not ask for war, nor did they have voice in its making, but it was their own blood of their blood that was given, not freely, but demanded by the leaders of their country.

CHAPTER III

THE KAISER

IF the indemnities that are to be asked of the Germans and their cohorts was to be taken toll of the Kaiser and his militant advisers, then I, with the boys over here, in spirit land, would demand full indemnity with all interest, and by that word full, I mean full. The German people were but slaves under the rule of Kaiserism from the cradle to the grave. This doctrine has always been instilled into their very lifeblood. Kaiser, country and loyalty to both—regardless of what it means in sacrifice.

Take any people, and century after century let them have this, their creed, deep rooted and grooved and then what else could you expect but obedience in anything no matter what, as long as it was orders from Kaiser or country.

In what other nation could you see such blind obedience or such official arrogance? Where else in a so-called civilized nation are women held in the same light? The men in Germany have always, since time began, held their women as beneath them, almost as servants at their bid and call. The best and the finest must always be reserved for the man. You can even notice this trait in many so-called German-

Americans born in their fatherland and who emigrated to freedom. It is as the word "Verboten," which means slavery. Even the offspring of such people are brought to these same old-country ideas. When a man enters the room you will notice the good housewife fidget and fuss—to please him is her only wish; and will he go out of his way to even as much as set a chair for her? No. That is beneath his dignity as a man of kultur.

It is often said that the men of America treat their women with too much latitude, but on the whole are not the girls and women of America the finest all-around type in existence today? If you have a doubt on this subject, wait until the boys all get home. They can tell you the truth. They have had experiences with girls from blue-eyed, black-haired Irish lassies clear down the row to the fair-haired girls of Germany, and I will be willing to place a wager that few reached as near their ideals as the home lassies.

SOLDIER GIRLS

Didn't the girls go over and stand up under strains hard enough to tax the strength of a strong, able man? Didn't they work under fire as near the front as they could get? Not because they were sent there under orders, but because they volunteered to go to be near enough to bring succor and what little com-

forts they could to the boys. Women of all stations in life, giving up ease and giving up comforts to go out in that hell, not under draft, but because their hearts told them that it was the logical thing to do when their countrymen needed them and their help. I tell you, it took more than mere love of adventure, more than real love of romance, to stand up under what those girls went through many times in the line of duty. Not only the girls of canteen service, but the loyal girls of the great Red Cross band. Their noble work should be commemorated as well as the boys whose work was so well and so quickly done.

CHAPTER IV

MONUMENTS

SPEAKING on this subject I may as well add my views as to a proper and fitting way to commemorate the heroes and heroines of this great conflict. I think that the age of massive and expensive brass and marble monuments is past. To my mind the enormous sums that go into the building and the setting up of these beautiful, but rather useless, symbols, would be spent far more wisely and to far better advantage if it were put into public buildings and let them stand as memorial halls. By public buildings as memorials I do not mean a sort of mausoleums, but rather auditoriums wherein relics of the local men of the city or town can be kept and where all may gather for recreation. And then, too, would not the memory of those who fell be kept green if, say, once or twice a year services of some kind could be held in this memorial in their name? How many people stop to consider just what the average monument really signifies after the unveiling is over? True, they stand majestic and beautiful as works of art, adorning some park, square or other public site, but does the average person gaze at it over a dozen times?

And really, now, in your own mind, do you think that monuments of that sort really keep alive the memory of those for whom they are erected?

All this leads to another end that I wish to speak of, and that is the question that will arise in regard to a suitable memorial to my honor. My views as just expressed hold good in this case also. I do not feel that I am trying to anticipate, when I make mention of memorials in my name, because I know that this will be the natural sequence to my passing, and I wish that my ideas on this subject could be carried out wherever money is appropriated for that purpose. I would rather have one such place dedicated to my memory than to have fifty monuments set out for me. And another thing apropos is that I do not favor the many different suggestions that the map of the United States be altered as to names, already grown familiar to the people, should be changed in my regard. It is to my mind ridiculous in the extreme. I do not wish to disparage those who are acting in all good faith to commemorate me, but there are so many, many other ways that this can be done and not cause as much confusion as would result in case localities and age-old names of places were to be changed in my favor. I myself, were I an occupant of the chair, would veto any such bill as came within my jurisdiction.

PENSIONS

Another subject that I can safely add as coming under this same head, and of which I am not in accord, is the precedent established in setting aside a yearly pension of \$5,000 to my widow. The sum involved was not necessary to her maintenance, and even had it been, it would have been the proper course to have kept this dangerous precedent out of legislative channels, and to have raised this sum through other means.

The man responsible for the introduction of this measure did so in all good faith, and the associates with him in voting this through without dissenting voice, did so in the same good faith, and even against the little lurking finger of conscience that seemed to point against this measure as one in which they should have had no say. To my way of thinking this should have been left entirely to the discretion of the people.

I was not holding office in any way, manner or form at the time of my demise. My family was left in fairly good circumstances, and my death deprived them of nothing in the way of support. The question brought up as to the precedent established in the cases of several other President's wives left widows would not hold good in my case, as I was not holding office.

In a case of this kind where public money is involved too much care cannot be exercised as to its expenditure. This is all I will say on the subject, else I might arouse the ire of those to whom I should feel indebted.

CHAPTER V

THE PACKERS

THE probe of the packing interests as now going on is commendable. It was high time that this great industry, involving as it does millions in money and practically the entire control of the meat situation of the country at large, should really be under government control, providing that this can be done without exorbitant expenditure, or hold-up. There is much hidden evidence that must be unearthed, and when the probe really gets under the skin you will notice some great squirming on the part of the magnates in control.

If this war was fought to bring about justice to all people, why then should justice not start at home? Why allow a selected few to control the vital necessities of life and to demand exorbitant profits for that commodity which happens to be under their control, necessary as it may be to the life of the people?

MARKET GAMBLING

No man should be allowed to gamble or to control the market price of any common necessity of life, be it food or be it clothing, and all those convicted of such an offense should be

tried before a tribunal of the common people who have had to pay their prices and let these victims pass sentence. Why should a man wax rich on another's labor? Why should he live in ease and luxury while another toils to raise stock and grain on which more often or not the farmer loses while the man in control of the markets manipulates the prices through some gambling exchange? It is not fair, nor is it just. Let the government step in and be the controlling power in all commodities. Then can the poor man receive as fair treatment as the rich.

NEW IDEALS

I know that I am not following out my earthly ideas, or expressions, in many of the remarks I will make in the course of my talks through this medium, but with death and cessation of earthly strife, my eyes have grown clearer, my vision has grown stronger. I now see both sides of the questions under discussion, and can judge accordingly, and so when I advocate government control in all things pertaining to the common necessities of life to allow of the poorest of mortals receiving the same treatment as the highest, I feel that I am on the right track at last. The packers are no worse in their business dealings than are countless other concerns dealing in other lines. All are gamblers more or less, and the common people lose

out in the end. But I have shown my policies while on earth in dealing with the so-called trusts, and while I supposedly dispersed them they exist almost as strong as ever, but not in as brazen an outward manner. I can see what is needed stronger than ever to clear the markets of muck.

SOCIALISM

I do not wish to propagate socialism, or any of its kindred creeds. That would be like planting a field of grain, watching it grow until it headed and was ready to reap, and then in a moment of madness setting torch and devastating the field.

GOVERNMENT REFORM

There is no need of vast government reform. The United States has a system that calls for no great modification. It is in dealing with corporations that changes and reforms must come.

THE PRESIDENT

If the head of the government is a man of honest worth, then very little of false and dishonest legislative acts will pass and be sanctioned. He has the power to veto all measures that come up before they are made laws, but no one man can probe all things to his entire satisfaction in the short time allowed before signing.

THIRD TERM

In my opinion when a man is elected to the office of President he should be retained as long as he gives entire satisfaction to the public and their interests. He should not be harassed by a short term of four, or even eight years, in office. Often it takes practically the entire first term for a man to understand the situations thoroughly that are under his jurisdiction, and just as he is getting down to real understanding and to the real business of government supervision he needs must go on a canvassing campaigning tour that breaks into his routine and must have his mind on political business.

No man can do full justice to his office unless his mind is undivided, and many hesitate to start reforms for political party reasons, fearing to hurt their interests in another campaign, or if in their last tenure of office would hesitate on vital questions because time would not allow of their completion, and fear that their successor would either resent the work left for him to finish, or more often would bungle the job. For that reason I would advocate, along with other broken precedents, that one more at least be added, that of retaining in office for indefinite periods, subject to recall, any President, regardless of party, who can, and does, prove himself the fit man for the office.

PRESIDENT WILSON

No more honest or higher principled man ever sat in the presidential chair than he who occupies it now. He is a great student, and as such is not given to voicing his opinions, or airing his plans to the public eye until he is ready for their consummation, and it is this trait, while commendable in many ways, that causes people of America more used to airing their opinions to misunderstand him and his motives. But on the other hand, they are beginning to see his true worth.

He elected to cross the ocean to defend his policies amid bitter denunciations on the part of myself and many others, but time has shown the great need of his presence at the preliminary conference for peace.

When he returns to his duties at the White House he will take up the routine of business where he dropped it, and questions that are now at issue will be solved in all good time and with careful consideration. That is one thing in his favor. He never jumps into anything haphazardly, but only acts after careful study of all sides and all possibilities of every question that is brought up.

CHAPTER VI

BOLSHEVISM

I T will take a man of clear outlook and calm judgment in the office for the next few years at least. There is trouble ahead, I can see it fomenting even now. A spread of Bolshevism is about to strike the country at large. High wages and plenty of work, both for skilled and unskilled labor, has brought about this condition, and when wages begin to recede again, which is inevitable, the greatest riots will come throughout different sections of the country. I do not look for as bad a state of affairs throughout the Middle West as will be in both the eastern and western coast states, especially throughout the western states, where it seems that the I. W. W. element has greater control. Troops will have to be kept in readiness to quell the riots and restore order out of chaos, but I look to see blood shed before order will be restored.

ORGANIZED LABOR

Organized labor, if under the right leadership, and if it recognizes laws of the Union as to peace and order, and does not make demands that are at times entirely too drastic to contemplate, is a good thing for the masses, to pro-

tect them from too much capitalism, but when organized labor can, and does, tie up an entire city or state, paralyzing its industries and putting the inhabitants at the mercy of their whims, it is time that something drastic was done to curb this power. It is as a dangerous mad dog loosed in a crowded thoroughfare, no one can tell where it will spring nor how deep its bite will be.

If such a condition was brought about with a good excuse behind it, as a demand for fair treatment, or a living scale of wages, I would not say a word, but when men organized together in the name of labor will go out on a strike or demand, in sympathy with other strikers who are demanding, not a living wage, but an exorbitant salary, then I, who have always championed the workers, have nothing but contempt for their methods and would like nothing better than to see them shut out entirely and their places filled with returning soldiers who fought their fights over there in France, while these men were drawing salaries far and above any that they had ever drawn before.

There will be plenty of the boys glad to accept these same disputed positions and willing to take up the work at the granted scale, so be careful, you men of organized labor, that you are not superseded by others while you parade and argue.

Remember one thing, that the government of the United States is beginning to have a finger in every pie, and if it sees that all is not as it should be, there is power to make it right. You have had a square deal, as near as could be on short notice.

You promised to abide by the decision until such a day as real adjustments could be had. This promise was made, not to a private owner, or to a man in civil life, but was made to the government agents, and I tell you, men, that it is a risky thing to break faith with your government.

Remember that peace is not here yet. The United States is still at war virtually, and will be until the peace negotiations are completed and practical peace is declared. What has all of this to do with your case you will perhaps wonder. Well, while you have idle time on your hands, you can figure this out for yourself.

Remember, your President may be on foreign shores, trying his best to make the world see that all should live in harmony, and is it just or right for you to go against these very principles at a time like the present? If he can get the world, that has more to complain of now than you ever could have, to see his way of thinking, do you think that he will let you do as you please in this land that he feels responsible for?

Get together on a fair basis, and let your

differences be settled by arbitration and at the right time. Be Americans now and stand by your country. Don't let ideas that were fomented across the ocean in the most illiterate country in Europe be the slogans of your class. See what is being done in Russia today. Do you want to see the same condition in your land? If your answer is yes, then may God see to it, if the government can't, that every man voting aye to this question be exiled to Russia for the rest of his natural life.

CHAPTER VII

RETURNING HEROES

ALL hail to the returning heroes! Let joy be unconfined. But one thing to remember, don't pour out all your enthusiasm and welcomes on the first units returning and give them all the best that you have in hospitality and in choicest positions in civil work, but remember that many of the boys who did the actual fighting and endured the hardships of the war are still over there and will be for some little time. They, too, will want some of your cheering and some of your welcome on their return, so I say, give freely, but keep a reserve stock fresh, too.

The boys that have been kept as an army of occupation will not want to come home and find that the uniform is out of date, as far as welcome and opening to a livelihood is concerned; and, girls, remember that the boys will be hungry for the sight of your bright faces and the sound of your loving voices; and men, you who have had the great privilege of wearing the uniform of your country, see that it is as unsullied when you return it as it was on the day you first donned it. If not for the sake of your own manhood's honor, then for

the sake of the boys who still wear it over there.

You who have returned home can do much in keeping alive patriotism in the hearts of all if you will but try. You have been under discipline, most of you, long enough to realize that it is, and was, practically the means of making you stronger in every sense of the word, mentally, physically, and I trust spiritually. If it has not done these three things for you, then the service has been a failure in your case, and it will do little good for me to plead with you on a moral ground.

One of the first things that the returning soldier thinks about seems to be to establish a home for himself. He has seen the love of the European peasants for their homes, and being removed far from his own kin and friends his thoughts naturally turn to home and his return there. The aftermath of the two facts, combined to make one whole, is the decision to settle down and found a home and rear a family on his return. This is commendable, as the homes are the foundation stones of a country.

JUSTICE

The boys returning should all be assured of means and ways to establish homes, and should be offered positions that will pay them a living wage. This is the fundamental duty of the government, and Congress would spend its time wisely in framing such a measure before it is

antedated by the boys getting discouraged over the prospects that they see and becoming dissatisfied with conditions as they exist and forcing an issue by other less commendable means.

The government conscripted most of her army from civilian life, taking the boys from positions that some of them had spent years in acquiring, and if the men for whom they worked do not feel justified by service in their country's name to find them another position equal to the one they left, if not able to give them the same places, I feel that the government should, and eventually must, take a hand in settling this question.

SERVICE FLAGS

It was easy enough to hang out a service flag filled with blue stars. It was not so easy to add a silver or golden one as conditions and fate demanded. With flags floating on high and the senses stirred to highest pitch by flashes of news from the front, it was easy enough to be patriotic and make promises to the boys leaving for war, but with that incentive gone, and life once more assuming a near normal phase, it is a trifle embarrassing for some to be called on to make good these promises.

UNREDEEMED PROMISES

To the soldier these unredeemed promises are one of the bitterest pills to swallow. He

comes back with a feeling that the patriotism shown at his departure will not be dimmed on his return. In fact, he justly feels a bit exalted over his great experience in being one of the fighters, and others should look upon him as a little out of the ordinary, but when the reality strikes him you can imagine what effect it has, like ice water thrown over one. He loses that which he can never feel again, no matter how long his life may be. Let him have his little triumphs while he may. He has earned them. Instead of damping his ardors, cheer him along, and for the sake of the youth you have left behind, find something in your establishment that he will not be ashamed to work at while still glorified, and something that you will not blush to offer.

THE SAILOR

I give this little talk under heading of soldier heroes, but I have not forgotten that there are others just as deserving of your praise and patriotism—the boys in blue of the navy. They, too, did their share, and often more in winning the war. They, too, deserve the best that can be had when their country no longer needs them. They, too, will be founding homes on shore and rearing families. There will be thousands of such releases in the next year, and all should be provided with positions upon their discharge. That will help keep loyalty for their

government imbedded in their hearts as nothing else would, the very fact that their country was looking after their welfare even after it was through with them as fighting units. Enough cannot be said, or done, for them to help make them self-respecting citizens instead of dissatisfied citizens.

CHAPTER VIII

THE RED CROSS

I WANT to speak of the great work accomplished by the Red Cross, both before and after the entry of the United States into the war. It is the one civil organization that has my entire approval in all of its different phases of relief throughout the war, and I am glad that the American people were so generous in their contributions to this great working band that there is left on hand quite a surplus of cash beyond present needs, but I deplore the little petty jealousies that have sprung up between the smaller chapters over surplus funds in the treasury. Each seems afraid that if the money is left with the different chapters that it will eventually become too much of a temptation and be spent unwisely where not needed.

My idea of the proper thing to do with this surplus on hand is to turn it over to the national chapter headquarters and have it accounted for in the proper manner, and then when need arises for money it can easily be requisitioned from headquarters and properly checked and accounted for. This is public money, subscribed by the people for mercy work, and must be

used for that purpose, and it will be needed before the end of relief work comes.

The Red Cross has under its wings, we might say, many different units, but all forming part of a great movement for the work of succor and help.

The nurses' unit, while standing out as one of the foremost works of the organization, is really but an infinitesimal part played in this war. The soldiers and the civilian population of the stricken country as well, look to the Red Cross as to a savior, for help and for sustenance.

This great organization worked as one with the government, supplying everything from a tack to a fully equipped hospital unit on a moment's notice, one might say. They saved more lives through their work among the civilian population than were taken toll by the war.

Like angels and saviors the workers would appear in a devastated region, supplying food, clothing and even housing and refurbishing what could be salvaged on the spot in the way of household supplies and utensils, transportation being their one great difficulty in the shell-torn regions.

The front lines held no terrors for the brave workers, and even the women would venture as near danger as the military orders would allow, to bring help and comfort to the boys

in sore need of all comforts. The workers often went without sleep for hours at a stretch, stood on their feet until they were ready to drop from sheer exhaustion, and when opportunity came for a brief rest, often they would hesitate to remove their shoes from feet so swollen from the unaccustomed strain for fear that they would not be able to put their shoes on again in the time allotted them.

Sleep, that was the greatest need in many cases, but when under the pressure of work it was the last thing thought of, and I am sure that on the day the armistice was signed, and after the news was verified, that the only silence on the front lines was not the silence of the great and lesser guns, but the silence of sleep, heavy, deep slumber of exhaustion, that only the work-weary can know.

The women of America who were not given the opportunity to go over and help did noble work in the cause, both at home and in the work-rooms of the organization chapters, and it was mainly due to their efforts that so much was accomplished in so short a time. They were as truly doing their share, those who were loyal, as the workers in actual service. Many a soldier and sailor blessed the kind heart of her whose busy fingers fashioned his warm and serviceable extra garments of wool, and many a surgeon working at high speed among the wounded, blessed the careful fingers that had made band-

age and pad, and many a soldier lad blessed the hospital garments that kept him in comfort and cleanliness. I know this to be the truth.

I have talked to spirits of all classes, soldiers, sailors, surgeons and nurses, and they all had the same story to tell of the goodness and mercy of the Red Cross. When an organization of such magnitude can carry on for years and handle in the meantime millions of dollars worth of supplies, subscribed by the people, and can come through it all clean, it is worthy of much praise, yes, even of praise from the land of spirit life. Rest assured that the flag of white, with its emblem of red, will always be received with reverence by the people of Europe. They know what that banner stands for in their lives, and in a way that I hope the people of America will never see.

The Red Cross should be made a permanent government order, supported by popular subscription, but under supervision of government auditors. That would do much to keep its fair name unsullied, in fact, that is what should have been done in the first place with all organized civil relief. If the government had supervised the accounts of all organizations soliciting public funds on behalf of war work, there would have been no aftermath, no muck through which to delve, no dissatisfaction on the part of those to whom the relief and comforts were to be brought, no shifting of re-

sponsibility from shoulder to shoulder. This condition of affairs has done much to offset the benefits and has done much moral harm, but I hope that a great lesson will have been learned if ever the need should arise again for such work. It is deplorable that incidents of this kind should have had to mar the Godliness of the mercy work of the war, but enough on this subject.

CHAPTER IX

SUBSCRIPTIONS

SPEAKING of public moneys collected through popular subscription, it seems now that a start has been made in this direction, and it is becoming overwhelming; where before a hundred thousand dollars was considered an enormous sum to raise, now from one to a hundred millions are being asked for different purposes, and when solicited from men in the business and political world it is usually forthcoming, because the men so solicited feel that it is right and in a good cause, and because they know it is their bounden duty to give.

QUOTAS

Now in my opinion a great many of these begging pleas are not worthy of support, and should be carefully looked into by a committee capable of judging. This business of anybody and everybody setting a certain quota on cities and localities and then almost demanding its fulfillment by threat, or begging plea, is getting to be too much of a fad. If money is needed for food and clothing in towns and localities, let the city or state appropriate a certain sum to be used for relief, and then appoint agents

to render that relief where it is needed, and the sums expended be accounted for to the state in itemized statements. Then if the sums needed are in excess of the money on hand in the treasury, let special taxes be levied on all to pay for this. In that way each can pay his or her mite and no special one will be burdened with excessive call for donation.

I speak not from hearsay, but from actual experience, when I say that a man of any public position is almost hounded into insanity through committees soliciting funds or selling tickets to different benefits, bazaars and charities, and if the sum solicited only amounts to a dollar or five each time, there are so many calls that at the end of a year a big inroad has been made into private funds, and you have no record of how or where it went.

CHURCHES

Churches are supported almost entirely by contributions and moneys derived from bazaars and benefits. Often in localities that are scarce able to support one church properly, you will find three, four or five struggling along trying to exist, and the pastors scarce knowing where the next week's income is to come from.

Now, in my opinion, even though there be a diversity in matter of creed, why try and keep up several houses of worship in this manner when if all the contributions and all of the

support of the community were given to one house of worship in which all might congregate and receive the faith, much more could be accomplished and the minister kept in a self-respecting style of living, where he could give his best to the congregations.

The only practical difference in the creeds is, after all, in the names. All are seeking God and all are seeking salvation in the name of His Son, and how better to seek this than to make a right beginning on earth and banish jealousies and little petty differences in religious forms, and form one great brotherhood of united creeds under the banner of God.

There is little true Christianity in assailing another of different creed just because your way to heaven is not the way of the other. There is only one God, and you all seek Him.

GOD

There is only one road to find Him, and that I find is not the road through Protestant or Catholic or Jewish creed, but it is through the road of your heart and on the truths found there are based your hopes of salvation.

JUDGMENT

What matters it if you are the elder, or leader, in all affairs of your church on earth if your heart is not in accord with God your standing in the church affairs will avail you nothing. God does not search the records of

the churches to find out who is the largest contributor to its funds, or just who is the leader in all of its activities when He seeks to judge His people, but He looks deep into their hearts as they come home to Him in their nakedness, and there He can read the record of a life well spent in His service of love, or mis-spent in the service of hate.

NEAR DEATH

The boys in the trenches in France and Belgium found that it made little difference whether their trenchmates were of their same faith or not. With death at their very side throughout the days and nights, they came to understand each other fully and found that after all, in spite of nationality, creed or tongue, that all were brothers and of a kin.

Death clears the sight and widens the vision. To have death for a companion for days at a time does wonders in re-making a man, especially if he has breathing spells in which to think over the affairs of the past. It broadens the outlook and widens the narrow mind.

You will find the change of attitude towards creeds in most of the returning soldiers and sailors. They will never again tolerate prejudice against another because of religious differences, and if all the world could be brought to this same state of mind, there would be little need of peace parleys or armament, as religion

has much to do with war. Why, I have seen whole communities split and neighbors at war with each other over different views on the subject of religion, and that is why I advocate one church, one God and one faith for all, to bring peace among neighbors and love to the hearts of all.

UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD

I would heartily support, with what support I am capable of giving now, any plan for raising money by subscription if it was to be used to establish universal brotherhood churches, or halls of worship, but any plan to individualize any one creed, or faith, will not even receive my tolerance.

While the world is in the turmoil of reconstruction and is trying to get back to a normal civil basis, why harass and plague with demands for money that the people of all classes can little afford to give?

Living expenses have been high, and while wages have soared along on wings, it has taken practically all that a man of family could earn to keep that same family in the common comforts of life, and few have been able to lay aside the customary bit for a rainy day, but Americans are easily played upon and often will give when they least can afford to, from sense of duty, and as I said before, while not in the same words, perhaps, but with the same meaning, lay off and give the great American public a breathing spell.

CHAPTER X

WAGE EARNERS

YOU wage earners of the strong sex, are you doing justice to yourself and your employer? Are you earning the money you find in your pay envelope, or is your work so slackly done that in taking your wage when tendered you are in reality robbing him? Are you a loafer or are you a man? Stop and consider this. Take stock of yourself if you never have before, and see if you are really worth your salt, or worth more than your present salary. If you are of the latter type and have unconsciously gotten into a rut, get out of it and make yourself.

If there ever was one thing on earth I despised, it was a worthless man cluttering up the highways and eating food that belonged to men of worth. Give the best that is in you to those who pay for your time. Don't try to earn your money, and no more; that is not the road to advancement and to success. Did you ever see a man who amounted to a can of beans whose time was spent in watching the hands of the clock for fear he would give a minute or two of his precious, invaluable time to his employer without extra pay?

You may not think that the little attentions given to your work are noticed, and that details that to you seem very unimportant and overlooked in your work to save bother are not noticed. A really efficient man, one who gives full value in time and energy and thought to the interests of his employer, seldom has to make demands for increased salary or to whine over fair treatment in regard to promotions. He usually finds, unless in rare cases where he might have a jealous, spiteful man over him in influence, his work has counted for something after all. Employers are not blind to man value, and are always ready to do their best in encouraging standards.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Education is a great help, but it is not such a great factor in the business world as is supposed, nor in other work, as many of the most successful men were not even high school graduates. School or college cannot make a man out of you if you have not the making of a man in you. They but give you the rudiments of your education, the main part coming after your graduation into the college of experiences. There is where you will either stand or fall, and a great many fall who have the power to stand if they would but try.

Don't look for a soft snap. You will find that the soft places do not always lead into a

future, and often are the cause of man's downfall. Men are so constituted by God that they must have an outlet for their energy. His original plan was for man to use this in gaining himself a livelihood through physical labor, but as civilization became more pronounced soft snaps became more plentiful, and found plenty of seekers. They, too, had energy stored up in their soft bodies that must find outlet, and often it will be used to the damnation of body and soul.

IDLENESS

When idleness lies heavy on a man's conscience it denotes manhood lies within, but when a man revels in idleness it shows a sore lack of manhood. There is deviltry at hand that the idle seldom fails to find, while the busy man has no time to see it. If your brain works along with your hands, you will get somewhere, but if your hands work alone you will always remain just where you are.

IDEALS

A good plan for a young man starting out in life is to set himself an object and strive always to reach that object. A good successful man's career should be studied through all its phases and followed to the best of one's ability. In having some certain goal for which to strive, a man will make greater strides to successful

attainment, as life then will be like running a race with a determination to win in the end. Be thoughtful, courteous, and above all, keep your brains and your hands working together for the good of all.

CHAPTER XI

SUFFRAGETTES

THE suffrage question, I notice, is still unsettled. The Senate does not seem to take kindly to the measure. The women backing this bill should know that one thing causing this unfavorable attitude on the part of the lawmakers is the actions of the women in trying to force the issue. Militant tactics go against the grain of any red-blooded American man, and I think I am in the right when I say that the deciding votes were cast by men of that caliber.

IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

The women who have been doing picket duty around the White House in Washington have really done more harm to the cause than can be rectified in years. They are not good types of modern suffragettes, but belong to the militant class of women who like to draw public notice to themselves, and think it an honor to have their pictures published in the yellow papers of the country showing them in war-like attitudes, either fighting a squad of police surrounded by a howling mob or being taken by force to a cell. No wonder that the men representing the country's best interests hesitate to grant them equal rights.

A lady can and should act her part as a lady, no matter what she is seeking for, or where, and the suffrage party will be wise in heeding my advice to do away with this form and type of advertisement, for that is really what these women are, an advertisement, but of the wrong kind.

IN PARIS

The very idea of planning to send delegates to Paris to picket. Why harass the President of the United States and make both his position and the women of the United States ridiculous in the eyes of the world? The women who were prevented from crossing to do this very thing should thank the government for preventing them from carrying out their plans.

EQUALITY

I believe that women, as a whole, are equal in mentality, if not in strength, to the men of the world, and should have equal rights with men in all things, and the time is coming when this will be true in fact, as well as fancy, but I have no patience with fool women who try, as I say, to gain notoriety and who defeat the aims of their party through their acts.

A woman is capable, to my mind, of voting and holding office as well, if not better in many cases, than the men voting and filling office now. They have keener instincts, clearer insights and

perceptions into things that men often blunder at, and are less subtle in using their powers in an unlawful way, but on the other hand they seem to have less of the strength of purpose needed to handle public affairs.

WIFE IN OFFICE

If it were not for the eternal sex problem, a good plan would be to elect two officials to the same office, where that office is one of importance, and have the officials each of the opposite sex. Then by combining the two qualities of the two brains and strength I think that an ideal medium would be reached.

Men that have proved themselves to be successful in business and political life, more often than not, have a wife at home whose influence is a big factor in that success, though the man and the woman may be unconscious of this fact.

THE OTHER SIDE

A man can go far if his wife is of the right sort, but on the other hand, a woman, be she of the wrong kind, can pull a man down to the gutter from most any station in life. I wonder if the women of the land realize what a big part they play in a man's life, and in his successes or failures. If they did realize this fact fully, they would also realize the fact that they have little need of asking suffrage except to give them equal rights in holding property

and in legal matters, but as far as voting and handling the affairs of the nation is concerned, she can do that readily enough through her husband. But let me give you a hint of advice, don't let him know what you are doing through him.

There is no cause for undue wailing on the part of the suffragette party leaders about dishonor in connection with the defeat of the measure. There was no desire on the part of any member of Congress to dishonor the women of the nation; on the contrary, it was to save their honor that they voted as they did. Time will show that I am right in saying this, as women are not ready to enter the same field with men, and the war, instead of being the means of franchising women has been the means of delaying the franchise. This reconstruction period is not the logical time to introduce new forms, or is it the time to allow women the ballot through which they can overthrow old forms. When life again assumes a normal standard, then it will be safe to pass this measure, but in the meantime if you women want to gain the good will, and erstwhile the votes, cut out the theatricals at Washington.

CHAPTER XII

CHILD LABOR

THE child labor laws should be modified to a certain degree and made to conform with conditions in different parts of the Union. While rigid laws must be applied to certain sections, especially in the mill and factory infested districts, there can be more laxity shown in other sections where conditions warrant.

In my opinion strict measures should be enforced against allowing children under the age of fourteen working during school periods, except on given holidays and on the Saturday of the week, except in the case of trifling outdoor work, such as delivering and paper carrying, which work is really more helpful to the average boy than doing nothing; but on the other hand, the long summer vacation, usually extending as it does over a period of ninety days or more, should not be spent by the children in idleness, and the law should take this into consideration: That an average normal healthy child from the twelfth year and upward is better off working at some suitable task in which they can earn part of the money required to clothe them during the school term than in idling away the

vacation months doing nothing. Teach them to seek outside employment for wage.

CHILD HELP

The average home that can be conducted during the school period without the aid of a child of the stated age can do as well in the summer months, when the work is lighter in most ways, and the small wage brought home by the child would go far towards lightening the usually heavily burdened family pocketbook, or in the case where the money question is not so pressing, it would be the means of teaching a child the value of money that is self-earned, and this lesson is never so well taught as when it can be instilled into the mind of a child at an early age.

Work, as the word is interpreted today in the average American city, where hours are regulated, is not a hardship on a child of average health, but rather a benefit. Idleness only begets mischief, and mischief often begets early crime.

In the mill states and states where factories flourish, children should also be allowed to work, but strict measures should be enforced in regard to hours and conditions surrounding them while at work. In the average mill town a child can find more to their detriment, morally, if allowed to run the streets during the vacation period that will in the end be a greater sin against

their lives than would any work that they were allowed to do.

Give the children a fair chance to grow up into healthy, right-minded people by making conditions right for them through childhood, but in doing this do not take away their privileges of learning self-sustenance and self-reliance. A child that is allowed to idle under existing laws until reaching the age of fourteen or sixteen will not make as good and worthy citizen in the end as the child allowed the privilege.

MORE LIGHT

While I know that this message I give is contrary to my talks on this subject while on earth, I can see that I, too, was often mistaken in some of my ideas, and it is with the wish to rectify as far as possible that I give this book touching on the different questions of physical life, and if its mission is but partly accomplished I will feel well repaid. But to the subject in hand again.

I feel that many who are capable of judging this subject rightly will be in accord with me when I say keep the child hands and brain working together at some suitable task and the future of that child will be assured, but allow the child hands and brain to find their own tasks and you will some day see that the course was wrong. In speaking of work I am includ-

ing the girls as well as the boys, as they need the education and the benefits to be derived through it, as well as do the boys, if we are to expect women of worth when they have reached womanhood.

UNIFORM DRESS

It is a deplorable fact, but many children are hindered in their education through the question of clothes. In speaking thus I am not talking of young ladies and young men, but of children of average school age, and deals more with girls than with the boys. Many will say this is a free country and no regulation in regard to dress should be asked or demanded, but, truth to tell, there is as much need for regulation in this regard as there is need of regulation in regard to child labor.

When children in every grade, from primary to graduating class of the high schools of the country, have the question of clothes first in their minds, to the detriment of studies, it is high time that regulation should come; and when girls of tender age, scarce graduated out of the nursery, don peek-a-boo waists and silk hosiery and add rouge and powder in an effort to attract the masculine classmates' favorable notice, they shun the less fortunate classmates whose family cannot afford to dress them in frills, or whose parents are of the common-sense type and object to this immodesty of dress. I say, it is time for regulation, and if all of the public

schools of the country would follow the lead set by many private schools of requiring the pupils attending to wear a regulation uniform of plain but modish cut, it would do much; in fact, I believe I am right in saying that it would almost entirely eliminate the sex problem from out the graded schools, and you must admit that there is such a problem in our schools today, especially in our high schools. Mothers may stand aghast at this assertion in regard to children attending the schools, but close inquiry will bring an affirmation.

HEALTH

How to keep free from disease. This is vital and is as much to be included in the education of a boy through every school year of his life as is reading, writing or arithmetic. Yes, more important than any of the other studies, and anyone reading the reports of the examining boards delegated to examine physically the draftees conscripted for the great war will see that I am right in declaring this a necessary adjunct to education. Parents neglect this vital question to the detriment of the health and future welfare of their children, and so if the nation is to be free from the awful curse of the black plague, it must be taught to the growing child through educational paths, and we must not rely on the parent to give this the attention it so earnestly needs.

COMRADESHIP

If the boys were taught all that this great question implies, there would be little need to devote so much thought to ways and means of safeguarding our girls from harm, and there could be more general comradeship between the sexes when they reached the proper ages.

When the men and women understand these vital questions, and through their understanding can intermingle in political and in business life, as well as the social without contamination, then truly will the earth be cleansed.

UNIVERSAL TRAINING

Universal training will be a good step in the right direction. All boys will be subjected to a severe physical examination, the same as applied to anyone trying to enlist, or called to military duty. This examination would come at an age when it is most needed, and then while undergoing training physically the boys would also receive instructions in physiology, or in other words, taking care of the body and keeping it clean morally. This training would fit them for a useful life in business, as well as in the social life, as a clean moral man is more apt to make a success of himself than otherwise.

CHAPTER XIII

GOVERNMENT AID

ONE great question that arises to my mind, and which I think is being formulated in a bill, is the question of helping every man in America to own his own home and pay for it as he can. If this measure were adopted whereby a man could submit his plans for a home for his family, and could borrow enough from the government on a small interest and long terms, it would do much in my belief to create a nation of loyal people, and also make our land a land of homes, real homes, not rented ones.

HOME

If the average man was paying on a home of his very own, he would naturally spend his spare time in improving the place instead of attending bolshevists' meetings. When a man has a real interest in the land, through owning a part of it, he is not going to take chances on losing it through disloyalty, and then, too, it makes for more contented family life.

The government has proved that the farm loan business is a success, although money is loaned on a small margin, and if this is true, why would not the home loan proposition prove

to be as successful from a financial standpoint, as well as an economic standpoint, to the borrower, and then see that measures are taken to protect the builder from fraudulent parasites who would try to get the contracts for building and would make a big steal out of the deals. Pass laws requiring honest building of homes, not mere frames to be sold as homes, and have an expert mechanic go over each place before allowing a loan, to see that there is no fraud toward the home owner, and therefore toward the government.

MIGRATORY AMERICANS

The American nation is what might be called a migratory nation, as most of its people of average standing, or less, are rent payers, not home owners. This is not good for the welfare of the nation at large, as it does not make for a loyal and patriotic people, in that they really have nothing to be loyal or patriotic about. That is one reason why Americans are great spenders, feeling as a great many do, that it is as well to live from one payday to the other instead of laying aside enough for the future. But if the people were given an impetus to save by the government passing a measure providing a way to start paying on a home, it would soon make a difference in the people of the nation, and from spenders they would soon become savers and procreators of the earth.

This is what the country needs at this time when war has ravaged the young manhood of the countries. It cannot afford to stand still in the matter of creation, and if the mere fact of owning homes will help in this vital manner, it is the duty of the nation to see that this question has immediate and serious attention.

BIRTH RATE

The world can ill afford to go backward, or to stand still, at this critical period in the matter of birth rate, and a good step forward, though it would seem a bit radical at the moment, would be to allow a certain sum, or bonus, at the birth of every child to parents of moderate means, who are naturalized citizens of the nation, this sum to help in allaying the expense attached to maternity. Every couple should give to the country at least two offsprings. Every marriage that remains barren is that much of a loss to the nation. Children are, or should be, as natural productions of nine-tenths of the marriages performed in the land, as the fruit follows the flowers, or the tree springs from the seed that is sown, and the tenth, or sterile marriage, that remains unproductive, is like unto the seed without germ, or the seed sown on barren soil—but a waste.

CHILDREN

Children make the home and keep the home ties strong throughout life. True, they are

often the cause of much worry on the part of the parents, not only while in infancy and tender years, but often throughout life; but on the other hand a home without children is a dull and barren home, even though social duties give life a semblance of gayety, and companionship. It is in the mature age that this barrenness is felt the keenest. When social obligations are beginning to pall, and age comes creeping on, then if there is no offspring to the union a great void is felt that nothing seems to fill.

It is God's plan, as in the case of all things that live, that reproduction must be carried on by the sexes, and God's laws must be obeyed.

EUGENICS

There should be rigid laws enacted in regard to the mating of physically unfits, and health certificates should be required of every person entering the marriage state to insure the future of the offspring. All persons afflicted with pulmonary weakness, or people without normal mentalities, should be barred from the marriage state, and all confirmed criminals, or degenerates of either sex, should be unsexed. If this were carried out to the letter of the laws as they should be, you would see a great decrease in the number of mentally deficient, and also deformed and depraved children, born into the world. This is a tender subject to discuss, but

it is one that needs more light being cast upon it. If laws can be passed for the good of stock and cattle, why cannot children of the future be protected in some way by law?

I have heard people say that if there was a just God in heaven, He would not allow the little children to be born on earth to suffer through the sins of their parents, but God can teach His people no other way than through these methods of the results of folly on the part of the parents, or even extending in some cases back to second and third generations. The children who are born to suffer are God's special cares. He makes up to them for the suffering they have to undergo, but it takes drastic measures to teach the lessons that common intuition ought to tell mortals, and often even these drastic measures are futile.

I hope that in this message I send these fundamental points will stand out clearly to all readers: Firstly, that this nation must become a nation of home owners to save itself; secondly, that home owners are prone to become procreators of the race, and this is vital to the nation; and third, that marriage laws should be enacted to guard the health of the future generations to come.

WAR SAVING STAMPS

The government has at last begun the right system by inaugurating the War Saving Stamp

movement, which movement was designed primarily to meet the need of the children for an impetus to save the pennies and buy Thrift Stamps to be converted into War Saving Stamps, or Baby Bonds, and many of the millions that had formerly been spent promiscuously were in the last year converted into these stamps, and more than one little spendthrift in the making was converted into a saver of pennies instead of a waster.

This is one of the great movements that the war really forced into being, and is to be commended in the highest terms and should be made a permanent institution by the government, as the good it does is so far reaching.

Children taught to save in childhood will cultivate a habit that will mean much to them in their future. In closing I will say: Give the child a chance to live as a child, give them all freedom, but restrict them to a childish plane. Do not elevate them to your own before their time.

U. S. BONDS

Apropos of the subject of saving I wish to add a few words in regard to the great war loan drives and bonds. The enormous budgets required for war purposes necessitated the calling on the nation's wealth with which to finance the war, and in this way was the first bonds issued, to be succeeded by other issues as needed.

Many hesitated to subscribe to the first and second issues because of misunderstandings that existed in regard to the bonds and their true value as collateral, but with the passing of time they grew to understand, in a way, just what the bonds meant and invested heavily. Some never did take kindly to the issues and bought only through coercion on the part of their employers or townsmen, and these people placed little value on their investments, deeming themselves lucky to sell at any price, and sell they did, and are doing, at the first opportunity offered, instead of holding fast and clipping coupons when due. This, as an investment feature to the people, is of as great benefit as are the war saving stamps, and should prove a boon to careful, prudent investors, as it is one of the safest and most conservative buys on the market.

The Fifth Liberty Loan, as it will be called, should receive hearty indorsement by all.

The timid purchaser to the former issues has grown more timid through fear of declines in value of the bonds because of the quotations on the stock exchanges of the past issues, and this damnable outrage of gambling with national bonds at this time seems to me treasonable. It can and does interfere with the government's plans in floating new issues as needed, and some measure should be taken to put a stop to this nefarious work. The bonds have a face value

and should be kept at that value, as they are as good as the gold in hand.

Why not allow of their cancellation at full face value in case the holder can show extreme need of cash, just as in the case of the War Stamps, and limit the amount that each person is allowed to cancel?

The companies formed to take over these bonds at market value will reap a harvest off of the small patriotic investor, hard pressed for cash or afraid to take chances in holding on to the bonds in the face of their lowering value on the market. While this condition cannot be outlawed, it is not fair, but the wild-cat companies formed to trade in worthless stocks that are shown to carry more interest to the investor by fraudulent reports shown the prospective trader for gilt-edge government bonds, can and should be legislated off the earth, and the promoters thrown into jail for an indefinite time.

The government has acted fair and square in all matters pertaining to the bond issues, and it should not allow others to step in and fleece the unwary now. Lincoln was right in a way when he said: "You can fool some of the people part of the time." Anyone with common intelligence would know that a man was not traveling over the country trading A No. 1 stocks bringing in a high rate of interest for the patriotic duty of collecting government

bonds at a nominal interest, but the fools are not all dead yet, and some protection must be given them.

There is no better or safer investment in the whole world than these bits of paper, and everyone who holds them should do so until forced to part with them on their maturity.

Your country has thanked you a thousand times for your help in loaning her this money, but when you bought and paid for your little store of bonds, or your single bond, she thought you was making good the promises they stood for. A loan of your mite for the terms under which they were issued is your patriotic duty, as well as a duty to your own future welfare. Keep to the terms of the contract, and when the new loan is floated, buy again to your utmost. Above all things, be patriotic when your country calls.

THE FLEECER

More than one fleecer of the public sprung up during the war, and all are as despicable as are the grafters of war bonds. Given the name of profiteer they are at liberty among the people of the land, when in truth, under the name of thief, they should be behind the bars. What difference between a man who robs from necessity and who is called plain thief and dealt with accordingly and the man who sits in luxury and steals from scores? To my mind the com-

mon thief is the better man of the two. A steal is a steal, and a man who deliberately takes advantage of the conditions caused by war and under methods that appear honest enough to the observer does plan and carry out enormous swindles against the people who have no redress in the matter, by substituting inferior materials in the making of the clothing that constitutes a necessity to the poor, and to the wage earner, and who deliberately substitutes inferior foodstuffs, or raises the price, already high enough, to an exorbitant figure, that man, I say, is criminally guilty of thievery and should be dealt with accordingly.

THE CAUSE OF ANARCHY

Gambling in food and clothing, as I remarked in one of the former chapters of this book, should not be allowed. It works hardships on people already overburdened with care and worry over money matters, and is one of the great factors in the spread of unrest and Bolshevism, or anarchy, among the people.

When a man works hard for his daily wage, sees his family economizing to the last cent and doing with only the barest necessities to make both ends meet, and often seeing the ends overlap on the wrong side of the ledger with never a chance to put aside a nest egg, he begins to think and wonder about the future and whether, after all, it is worth while keeping on.

He sees the man of wealth living in luxury, his family well dressed and seemingly free from all the worries and cares of life, with servants to wait upon them hand and foot, and limousines at their call, and he begins to figure that he is helping pay for all this splendor with his hard-earned money and his daily labor.

It is but a step more to anarchistic thoughts, especially when he hears these very same ideas expressed by his fellow workmen and exhorted by orators from a street corner.

It is but a waste of time to try and sermonize to him about happiness in a cottage being of far more worth than barrenness among luxury in a palace. The outward side of the easy life looks good to him, and he feels that he would willingly take a chance on the inner side, but if government measures would be taken against all those guilty of extortion against the common people and would land those who were guilty where they really belonged, and where their conscience tells them they belonged, justice would be satisfied and the working man would see that his life was, after all, the more desirable life of the two; but as long as these wolves are allowed freedom to live off of the fat of the land and to exist on the labor of others like parasites, then so long will you see unrest and trouble among the masses. But give all a fair deal and peace will prevail.

If a certain per cent of profit, figuring over-

head expense and allowing so much as interest on capital and so much as profit, were stabilized it would be the just and right way to handle a fast growing menace to peace among the classes. No man is entitled to an enormous profit through the labor of another, or through the inability of another to demand his rights in the matter.

The same condition prevails in the money marts. Banks realize enormous profits on their capital stocks, this mainly through the misfortune of others through need of help, and this condition can and should be remedied by the government as soon as peace conditions will allow.

Establish banks under government control where the common people can be accommodated without being forced to pay enormous interests. Give them a chance to see that American government is for the people and with the people, not for the capitalists and politicians and against the people.

A LAW AS A SOLDIER'S MEMORIAL

The bill for loans to those seeking a home will be a big step in this right direction, but added to it a banking system where loans of all denominations could be had, on the same basis as loans are made through private banking institutions, but on a nominal interest charge, and one of the biggest strides in Amer-

ican freedom from tyranny would be made. If such a bill were introduced and passed it would be a far greater victory for humanity and justice to the people than any victory brought about by war. Name it as a memorial to the departed soldier braves and it will keep their memory brighter in the minds of all than any memorial that money could erect. They would ask nothing greater, nor could they receive any greater.

Give the so-called common people their chance to live as free men and the fear of conflict will never enter the country's portals, but allow the oppressor's heel upon them and as surely as the sun rises above my grave, a revolution of conditions will come brought about through force.

CHAPTER XIV

LOYALTY

THE loyalty of the people must be firmly imbedded in their hearts through loyalty shown them by the country's leaders by passing measures favoring them in the vital issues of life. Once this loyalty is imbedded it will take much to uproot it again and the foundation for everlasting patriotism that is real will be laid, to be passed on in the blood of the children and their children's children.

The returning soldiers from abroad will tell of the wonders of the loyalty shown by the peoples of the foreign countries upon whose soil they were privileged to step, and how much more there is in this grand and glorious country to be loyal to. I see now the great mistakes made by those seeking prestige and power through partisanship to party in assailing their government, and its leaders, in all matters, no matter how small and trivial, just so that much noise can be made that will in the end cause friction among the voting population of the country.

If members of Congress would but devote their efforts to the work that awaits them at every turn, more good would come of their ses-

sions and much accomplished that is left undone or neglected, while arguments hold the floor. This is not what these men were sent to Washington for by their constituents. They are sent to present the needs of their community and to help frame laws for the benefit of the people's welfare, not to use their time for furthering their own ambitions or prestige.

PARTY ISSUES

Party issues should be forgotten by this body of men, and all should work together for the best interests of the nation at large, voting as their consciences dictate and reason allows, not as party demands and sanctions.

The President has full power to veto the measures as passed by both houses, but it is not often that this power is used by him, as the man that occupies the presidential chair usually figures that regardless of party the lawmakers have used every means at their disposal to give the measure full investigation as to its merits, or its drawbacks, before sending it through for his signature, and so gives little attention to the real value of the documents in regards to a minute examination of their worth. This is not always the case, though, but has been in past years when the occupant of the chair was more the politician than the student. From what I can see for the future this system of electing men for their political attributes

instead of their manly qualifications is past, and men will have to show that their life has been such that they are worthy of the honor as well as capable of filling the position with trust.

No man will be elected purely on his military or economic reputation, but on his reputation as to honesty of purpose and a platform for and with the people, based on reforms to the betterment of the common people as against the moneyed interest, but dealing fairly to all.

Any man with strength enough to plan a platform based, as I say, on reform for the people, and with strength of purpose enough to carry out these reforms in the face of strong opposition, and even danger, will become an idol of the people when they see that he is true to his campaign promises, and therefore true to those who voted for him.

It would be a great thing for the welfare of the country if parties were none-existent and the names of men brought up for nomination through some new method and recommended for their worth alone, not given the nomination solely because they happened to belong to the strongest party, and instead of sending electors to decide the fate of the candidates, as is the present method, let the people's votes decide direct.

The party with which I was affiliated seems, in my opinion, to be rather weak in the matter

of a leader for the forthcoming campaign, and I hope that they will be more fortunate in the interval that will elapse before necessity compels them to choose. I have no suggestions to make in that regard at this time, as I see it would do little good, if any, to voice my choice from the status I now occupy, so I will leave this question to those who feel better qualified to answer it in a material way, but I will give this note of warning: Choose your man with care and foresight if you expect results in the next great campaign, and do not attack present and past policies promiscuously unless you have proof, and absolute proof, of discrepancies and better policies to offer in their place.

Dig in and show the voters, you men of the old party, that you are capable of doing your duty justly without holding partisan feuds and bitter thoughts. Don't let the other side carry away all of the honors in the name of humanity, justice and right. Stick to the colors of your nation in handling her law machinery rather than to the colors of party if they interfere in what your sense of justice calls right.

The people take cognizance of your actions while in session, even to the smallest detail, and act accordingly later. Don't hinder the administration for purely partisan reasons during the pre-peace era, as it will only cause unfavorable reaction later when favorable action will be needed. I speak from a clear insight into the

thoughts and minds of the masses, as they are open to my inspection now, and I am only trying to help in the one way left to me now. Heed the advice of your one time leader, and be true to yourself, and to your country, and your constituents, above party or other interests.

PARTY ISSUES IN 1920

How rich in material politicians feel are the fields around them. With the greatest issues the United States has ever had before it to choose from as campaign hot-bunk, what a shifting back and forth and what a dodging of responsibilities will ensue.

Fortified with the League of Nations and the peace pact on one side and the railroad and labor troubles on the other the parties will both drown the country in oratoryism.

What will I have missed, and how my name will be bandied from mouth to mouth, lauded by the very men who caused me to secede from the ranks and allowed the party in power to win.

Were I on earth today and on the day of party nominations I would be elbowed aside for the newercomers in the race who stood so valiantly and prominently in the public eye as buffers for their party in the last sessions of Congress. Do not be deceived, my friends, into thinking that they have lowered their ambition or donned the hats they had doffed preparatory to casting them ringward.

DARK HORSE MOST POWERFUL

The most powerful man in the whole cycle of parties is what is usually termed in these cases a dark horse, and his name will be submitted late.

Cohorts of former days, take stock of your gaff and don't let your bile be the ruination of your party's interest at a time when her chances are of the best.

The people have grown tired of Democratic party rule, though they know not where their best interests lay, and are ready for a change if but offered a straw at which to grasp.

POLITICIANS, RESTORE ILLUSIONS

Playing politics in the house and in the senate will never do a cudgeon of good, and will never give the people the confidence they are looking for and rightfully need. It will take more than mere words, though eloquent they may be, to dispel suspicion and lull to rest resentments and restore illusions where disillusionments are harbored now.

THE PLATFORM

Make your platform conform to true American standards for the Americans who live upon your shores. Hoist Old Glory to the pinnacle and stand as men beneath her folds, ready to come clean for her sake and the people she represents.

Down party partisanship and hatreds if it interferes or clashes with what you know to be her best interests. If your hated, though now successful, rival party has done good things throughout its tenure of reign, and in your heart you know these things to be good, not only for the country but for the world at large, don't belittle or bemean them for what little good it might do your party, but stop in your tracks and remember that the great American public has eyes to see with and ears equipped for hearing.

What great things are before you today, opportunities such as no party has ever before faced and at such an opportune time! An opportunity if you will but grasp it at the right time and in the right way to make amends for the failures of your representatives in the last two sessions now closed, and to again hoist your party to the pinnacles of success.

HECTORING POLICY

You must admit your haranguing and hectoring policy has been a failure in many ways. Your wash-woman methods of handling big questions has cast a blot on your party's name.

Holding a bludgeon over a sick man's head and reigning blow after blow upon him through false accusations and implications that have turned as a boomerang, has proven a bit like teasing what was thought to be a sick and help-

less cat lying in the forest shade and which if care is not taken will prove to be a man-eating tiger.

His cunning and almost supernatural gift of handling any situation and coming out on top, even when confined as an invalid, should be warning enough to let him be.

Never harass a God-gifted man lest the Almighty take sides with him against you. By you I mean no one particular party cohort, but the members of the party as a whole, all have been offenders to a certain extent and all need a call down now. Each can sift over the mass of accusations and take what most he needs for the betterment of his own interests and to the good of the party as a whole.

PLANKS

Build your platform, as I say, on Americanism for Americans, which means for fair play to the world as well as to those who call America home. Build your platform of planks that will withstand the buffings of not only campaign work but also strong enough to endure as pledges that can be fulfilled without back-down on any one issue that the American people will want to hold you to. Pledge help to those who labor by promising them a tribunal before which they can place their differences and upon which they can look for a square deal. Insert a plank and make it a strong one, pledging the

aid of the Republican party in making America safe for Americans and freeing them from the terrorism of Soviet Reds, whether these same Reds be American born or affiliated Americans in name only.

THIN ICE

Get the American masses with your party in heart and mind and you will have little trouble getting them at the polls, but first get their confidence restored in the party by giving them the right man and the right platform, and in the meantime, regardless of party and partisanship, give them a square deal now, if not you will be but furnishing the thunder for your opponents' campaign. The ice is thin, boys, in spite of its firm appearance.

CHAPTER XV

CONGRESS

CONGRESS is not a clearing house for the airing of individual prejudices, or wrongs, but is the great law-making institution of the nation and should be held inviolate against petty grievances and trivial quarreling being carried on among its members in session there.

Men are supposed to be sent to that institution, not fretful, sulky boys. I, myself, have seen many of the latter type on its floors, hot in an argument, one with the other to the edification of the spectators gathered in the gallery.

Dignity should prevail under that roof always. If quarrels must be had take them outside into the corridors, but do not put ridicule into the sacred chambers, through your own loss of dignity. Remember, too, that times and conditions are changing the policies and precedents of the entire world.

PRECEDENTS

Do not spend time in arguing against a measure, or act, because of its establishing a new precedent over the old, or because it shatters the sacred conventions held by Washington

and other dead presidents. What was just and right and for the good of humanity in their day, cannot and does not apply to the present day and its crises any more so than the saddled horse could take his place against the more modern means of locomotion today. This is a fine stand to take to show a patriotic front, but you know, as well as I can see in your hearts, that times have brought about changes all around, in America as well as in every civilized country in the world.

LAW

War is a great leveler and destroyer of conventions and traditions, but in destroying the old it makes place for the newer ones that apply to changing conditions, usually to the betterment of the masses. I do not believe in stationary laws and statutes that are made in one generation and applied in another when conditions are on an entirely different status. Too many laws cluttering up the records, and almost entirely obsolete laws from their very antiquity, are brought into play from their musty hiding places to tangle and harass the modern school.

If I had my way about it, as I see things now, I would declare most laws passed before the war void, and would start in on a new set of statutes that would apply to the modern day style of thinking and living, and the laws that I should declare constitutional would be straight

American laws, without quirk or technicalities, to confuse and thwart the unwary, or unversed.

I would have a spade called a spade and not a diamond. I would make the laws such that a misplacing of a period, comma or a misspelled word would not cheat justice and allow for a retrial; senseless, useless waste of valuable time and often the means of doing a rank injustice to one who has right on their side. I would make the courts of the land places where justice was meted out, as correctly as possible, not mere stages for the matching of lawyer's wits, often to the detriment of the party in the right, especially when held before a jury of twelve men, tried and true, but usually a motley band of mixed classes, totally ignorant and unfit to sit on the judgment of a case.

JURY SERVICE

Men selected for jury service should not be taken at random and paid a nominal hire, but men for jury service, especially on cases of life or death, should be men well read in the law and men of enough intelligence to know right from wrong in testimony and able to pick the grain from the chaff of the opposing attorney's impassioned addresses to the jury.

More than one man has gone to his fate through the eloquence of the prosecuting attorney leaving a more favorable impression than the efforts of the other.

Too much stress cannot be laid on this evil of allowing men without education or perceptions to decide on another's fate. I have seen men act in this capacity as judge of another's guilt that I myself would not choose, and I know that no manager of a dog show would allow as judge of his dog's guilt in stealing a bone if the evidence was right in the dog's mouth.

If men of proper qualifications were used on juries there would not be as much injustice done as is the case now, and jury bribing and tampering would be eliminated to a greater extent, especially in cases dealing with the underworld, where often juries are bought and sold as so much merchandise, especially in the larger cities where cases can be changed to courts in which friendly judges and bailiffs preside.

Money defeats justice on too many occasions, and too much care cannot be taken by the voter in casting his vote for a judge. Read up and make all inquiries that you can upon his past records, not only as a judge, but as a man in the every day pursuits of life.

THE JUDGE

If a man lives clean every day of his life, you can usually bank on his doing the clean thing on the job. There is no office, to my mind, that needs a man more of moral and

of just reasoning powers than does the office of judge, and he who administers justice to the best of the ability that is in him, without prejudices or favoritism, will never have to fear the hand of retribution overtaking him.

CHAPTER XVI

MISTAKEN VIEWS

ONCE more I will shatter my earthly policies and contentions when I literally jump on those who are in contention against the President of the United States in his peace program. As I see clearly now from spirit land, it is not right or is it just to elect a man to office, the highest he can hold in the nation, and then to allow him to bear the brunt of attacks from all quarters, purely for partisan reasons. I confess I was as big an offender as could be found, even up to the day of my passing, and were it not for my prominence before the public eye and the prestige of my position as a former ruler, coupled with the magnanimity of Mr. Wilson, I am afraid that I would have spent my last days in confinement for sedition. The attacks I made against him were such as would have sent many another of less prominence to prison, and it was not fair, as I view it now, for either I to take advantage of my position or of others allowing me the free rein.

ATTACKS ON THE PRESIDENT

To my way of thinking now, the office of President of the United States should be held

inviolable against attacks of either a personal or political nature during his actual reign of office. He should be given every opportunity to make good in his position, and instead of opposition on every hand from his political opponents he should receive help and encouragement.

While America is considered a free country, freedom of speech should have a limit. When license is reached in making attacks on the person of the ruler, either to make him appear ridiculous or weak willed before his constituents, all such should be guilty of lese-majeste.

What more fair offer could be made than the recent one of asking permission to go over the points that are held to be essential to the forming of a league of nations, and which have practically been accepted and approved as a base for the league by all of the allied nations, and which was made in full faith to the existing lawmakers of the country, bidding them to withhold discussions of the league until such a time as would be advisable after all of the facts could be presented as they were received at first hand and each point of the basic foundation could be fully explained and discussed by the only one really capable of giving first-hand news of the work accomplished in France? To my mind the refusal of certain members of the body to attend this discussion constitutes treason against their country's best interests. They are but playing

politics, not acting fairly, either to their President or to the people they represent. This is not a time to do that. It is a critical time in the history of the country, and reason and fair-mindedness should prevail, not politics. I do not hold with such as these now. Their pettiness will avail them nothing as far as I can foretell.

The President has the power to do much in his own way, and he will not abuse or dishonor that power by using it in a manner to bring dishonor and shame upon the land, but to bring honor and fame and good will of all the world through his uprightness in dealing fairly with each nation to the best of his ability and power.

MODERN CONDITIONS

To say that he is destroying the constitution that was made possible through Washington and that Lincoln revered and died for by adding new precedents and by allying this free country with the nations of the earth in a compact that will interfere with her liberties in different ways is like objecting to the electric lights because the nation first knew candles and could do well with them, or like objecting to modern progress on the grounds that our country was founded on the old methods that have been superseded by the new.

Times have changed and with them have gone many of the old traditions and ideas. Condi-

tions have also changed, especially so in the last four years, and these changes have brought about the need for greater changes throughout the world.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Governments have been formed, monarchies overthrown, and once powerful nations have been mutilated and maimed. Through all this shall America stand by and allow readjustments to take form of themselves without support or frame upon which to lean or build? Should she allow her time-worn constitution to interfere in her plans for a greater brotherhood of man throughout the world in which justice and peace and humanity to man can be brought about, just as Christ would have had it were he on earth?

AMERICA A LEAGUE OF STATES

What is America today but a league of states, all existing as one under one flag and one federal constitution, but each being governed as a sovereignty through its own state laws? Can any find objection to this? Well, then, I think that when these men of Congress hear the real facts of the league as it will be given them by the President they will see that the whole structure is built on about the same plan, and would in the end work in just about the same way after the newness wears off the gears and times become normal over the world again.

A mere acceptance of the invitation extended will in no way pledge any one of the members, nor will he be compelled to change opinions or his attitude one atom if after hearing the facts he is still of the same mind as before. Don't allow prejudices or political aims to govern you. Keep reason foremost.

CHAPTER XVII

THE BUDGET SYSTEM

AT the present writing I see one great radical move that would be the finest and most reasonable and sensible thing for some member of Congress to suggest, and to have the matter discussed and passed on, and that is, to have a Minister of Finance appointed to make out a budget of the annual expenses and to hold each department responsible for its expenditures, and all appropriations asked by special legislators for different purposes in their own states would be carefully gone over and granted or rejected as seems best by experts trained to work of appraising and reporting on needed improvements.

This would do away with much grafting and politics would not be so lucrative a game, and therefore would not hold such an appeal to the certain classes that seem to dominate as bosses for purely financial reasons, and pork barrel appropriations would become myths if the right system was employed and the right man chosen for the place, which should be made a permanent office to the man qualified to fill it and not a political plum.

OUR SYSTEM

The public moneys should have more protection than are given to it now. It is an easy matter for most any member of the congressional assembly to introduce a bill for an appropriation for his community to be thrown as a sop to his constituents to gain their good will and to give him prestige and votes among them. In this way many millions are squandered each year on unnecessary public buildings and public improvements that could be saved and put to better use later.

Millions of dollars of the public moneys are getting to be but a mere *bâgatelle*, to be shunted about at will of a few men instead of passing appropriations for great national improvements throughout the country, such as in the reclamation of land for the settlement of returning soldiers from France, and the building of homes and highways throughout this vast acreage that is now both swamp or desert, and in this way not only providing for the future of the soldier, but giving employment to them as well in the present needs when labor seems scarce and unrest is growing throughout the nation because of this scarcity of work. That, to my mind, would be killing two birds with one stone, and also reclaiming vast areas of untilled but fertile soil to the betterment of all concerned, including the nation as well.

Would this not be a better way to spend the

public money at this time of great need than to appropriate it for the erection of some ornate public building in a little jerk-water town of nil inhabitants for the exploitation of some political aspirant to fame?

The soldiers have seen how well developed every inch of the fertile soil of France is kept, and then he thinks of the acres and acres of idle land in America that would support millions of people if it were cultivated, or cut up into stock ranges for the breeding of cattle and sheep. It is a great national waste of resources and should have the attention of Congress at the earliest moment.

PRESENT NEEDS

The dockets should be cleared of all bills not pertaining to the immediate needs of the country in these post-war days, and should be kept free from bills of this sort until such a time as Congress can give them attention without interfering with the needs of the day. By the needs of the day I do not mean suffrage questions and political wrangles of any kind. What I do mean is the vital questions of life, to be instilled throughout the nation by doing just what the constitution calls for. Bringing the government up to its right plane, "for the people, of the people, and by the people," and by doing this they will be doing the duties that they were sent to Washington to fulfill.

Keep the nation's citizens busy with work that is to their liking and give them lucrative payment for their work. Abolish the practical politician and substitute the man of high ideals and honesty in his place, and give the people a chance to live their lives as God intended them to do, free from oppression and with a chance to forge ahead through government help and encouragement, and America will become the most formidable nation on earth. Not because she will be the most feared for her dominant powers of prestige through power, but because she will have such gifts, and her shores will become as a paradise to homeseekers through immigration. But she will be feared because of her power of attraction to the foreign homeseekers and lovers of freedom and justice and liberty, and her shores will be in danger of being overfilled.

AMERICA A MECCA

America is a paradise as it stands today, but she would become, as I say, a mecca for seekers of paradise if she but added a few new reforms and precedents to her statutes in favor of the people and following as nearly as possible the lines I have suggested in the former chapters of this work.

CHAPTER XVIII

GEORGE WASHINGTON

ON the occasion of the birthday of both the father of the country and the man who virtually united its states through the Civil War, there is a tendency on the part of public speakers, who make politics their life work, to use these days and occasions for a furtherment of their aims by making speeches of a political nature instead of a spiritual nature in memory of the dead.

The life of George Washington was thrilling in the extreme, outside of his life as President in the days of the Revolution. He was a fearless leader and a great general. The methods of warfare in vogue at that time were simple, but today he would not be able to train a recruit before first receiving instructions himself. He endured hardships with his armies, and often slept on the muddy ground with hunger as his bed fellow. He helped to give this country freedom, and he helped to frame its constitution.

HIS CUSTOMS

He was utterly at sea in his first tenure of office as regards to what customs would be correct not only in the business, but in the social

attitude as well. It was a great responsibility, in a way, to assume an office so high and so newly created with no precedents to follow and no established social customs to maintain, but after all his was the easier task when compared with the duties of a President of the present day. His was the right to set new customs and to establish them to his convenience and to his liking, but are the days of his régime to be compared with the modern day and demands? If not, then why harp on the changes that are made from time to time?

PRESIDENTS IN EUROPE

Having nothing in common with countries of Europe that would necessitate his crossing the ocean, and, in fact, realizing he would be far better off at home, he kept to the shores of America; therefore he created a precedent that has carried through the ages, but was this because of his belief that his duties as President were so sacred that he must cling to his own shores to hold that sacredness inviolate? And was this precedent handed down through the ages, sacred and unprofaned, by the long line of his successors to the chair because they, too, felt that they were needed on their own shores most?

Did ever one of them, clear down the line to the present day, ever have other excuse than pleasure to make such a trip excusable? Then

why did we all raise such a commotion and try to impede the journey of the only occupant of the chair whose duty called him to foreign shores? He attended to his duties in a strict business sense in spite of the homage paid him there.

DIED ON THE JOB

Let us look over our own records while he was gone. Can any of us say the same? Just see what I did. Laid down and died on the job, but did my cohorts in political circles do any better than I? If so, show me the results of their labors.

Will it require a whole busy week of a busy man's time to attend to the signing of measures and to other work at hand that has been accumulating for him on his return through the overwork of Congress? Suffice to say that if he is satisfied with the work accomplished it will be a great surprise to me.

MEMORIAL ORATIONS

When oratoring at the grave of the brave Washington, or on a public platform, before you make your speech a denunciation of the man in power and his policies, and before you declaim in loud and eloquent language how he is bringing the country and her constitution to dishonor and to ruin, stop and question your own conduct as to fulfilling the duties of that

constitution to your best ability, and of just how you are fulfilling the pledges of the platform that put you where you stand in your party.

Try to visualize the spirit of the past President in whose memory you speak, and stop to consider whether he would approve of what you are doing for your country and her honor, and whether he would consider it an honor to have his memory and his birthday commemorated with a denunciatory elegy of one whose position should command respect throughout the nation, even though his policies were not your own. In the future remember this when preparing your memorial orations. Stick to the subject in hand and do not neglect the memory of the spirit dead in your vehemence against the living.

CHAPTER XIX

WAR

PUTTING aside all political questions and controversies, we will take up the subject of war in all its phases. This last great war will lend enough facts without going back into history to delve into other wars that now appear to be mere scraps by the side of this last conflict. Germany was ready to declare war on the slightest provocation, as she was fully prepared to follow up her declarations with deeds, and could, with reasonable assurance, become victor over any foreign power in Europe. She knew the approximate strength of every nation in the world, including America, but she figured that American democracy would not permit of America's entry into a foreign broil, but in that showed, like Achilles' heel, that which was thought of little matter, proved the undoing of the whole German Empire, for all the world knows today that without American intervention Germany would have been dictating the peace terms instead of the Allies.

BELGIUM AND FRANCE

Belgium and France bore the brunt of the war, not so much because the hatred of Germany willed it so, but because those two coun-

tries lay directly in the path of Germany's hoped for plan of reaching England and destroying her. If once France was conquered it would have been but an easy task to conquer England by using France as a base from which to strike. France was not an indomitable competitor against Germany's supremacy in the world's trade, nor were her people of the same progressive nature as the German's were. The people of France are a patient, home-loving and persevering people, not aggressive, progressive and ambitious for world supremacy as are the people of Germany. They were not ready or anxious for conflict, and therefore the odds were against them from the very day of the declaration, but Germany had business to attend to across the channel, and she went right after it, armed to the teeth and regardless of who or where she stepped.

ENGLAND

England saw the danger approaching, and with quick preceptions threw her armies in the field to the aid of France and Belgium, but she, too, was in an unprepared state and little dreamed of the extent of the preparation that had been going on in Germany for years with just such a conflict pictured as a goal.

MILITARISM THE CAUSE

It was not all the fault and plan of the Kaiser, this World War. He was truly more the victim

of militarism and had little or no power to either declare or suppress the outbreak. That was entirely in the hands of the militant powers of the nation, and they can truly be said to have dominated the ruler and the ruled in this matter, using the Kaiser mainly as a figurehead. By this I do not mean to convey the impression that he was not a party to the agreement. Having plans made and perfected to raise himself and country to the highest pinnacle in the whole world, towering high above his most despised rival, was something for which he was ready to risk all in giving the command when the time was ripe.

THE EXCUSE

The assassination that served as an excuse for the first declaration was but a flimsy one after all, but it served the purpose as well as another would have done.

GERMANY

Germany was primarily a military nation, and to that end had used the scientific and inventive genius at her command to perfect her machinery of war, so that she was practically letter perfect in the art and its accompaniments. No other nation could have hoped for victory against her in that state. Her men were soldiers, trained so from the cradle, and with a doggedness that only such environments could

produce in man. No other nation, unless under the same conditions, could produce such a set of men.

The officers were for the most part arrogant and officious, and held little in common with the men under them, and by this bearing kept the men subdued and subservient and willing to be driven, as all their life they had been taught that a uniform meant law.

HOME LIFE

Pitted against this master machinery of war we have the peasant and provincial soldiers of Belgium and of France. Militarism to them had meant little. Homeland and family life much. Peaceful in the pursuits of their daily life and tasks they had little thought, and less heart, for matters of this kind, but when called to the defense of their native soil they proved what they could endure and suffer in her defense. Handicapped as they were, without modern equipment and without training, they put up a brave fight and died like the heroes they were, facing the foe.

It is useless for me to try and visualize those first mad years of warfare. I was not there to see the conflicts and cannot speak at first hand, so will let others better qualified do that, but I can speak of their indomitable courage and their bravery throughout the whole dreadful carnage. Belgium became a battleground, a

veritable hell indeed. She is but a ruin of her former prosperous little self, but in spite of all that, the spirit of her people is not broken and is not dead. She will rise up to a new and in a sense a loftier plane than that upon which she stood before her travail. She has lost much, but through her losses her gains will be great.

KING ALBERT

Her ruler is beloved by all subjects, as is his queen, with a love that is reverence for the most part. He showed his worth not only as a king of country by his actual participation in the struggle, but as a king of men as well, and one who deserves the homage and trust of his nation.

FRANCE

France, too, will see a rejuvenation of her land through war's scourge. Her people have a great deal in common with the Belgium people. Their lives run in about the same grooves, with home life their obsession, and to them home meant the nation, as well as their own little abode.

It was in the defense of home and nation that they fought so valiantly in the face of what they knew was almost certain death, and today these two countries are almost totally bereft of their young manhood. That is one of the damnable phases of war. The very flower of manhood,

the most perfect types, are sacrificed on its altar, while the older men who would gladly go in their places are left behind. This seems an injustice to the laymen, but it is the only just way, as men in middle life, or past their prime, would become physically unfit to carry on, even before finishing their practice marches. It takes men of youth's vigor to make soldiers of strength, but many a man of the older type was sacrificed in the conflict.

OFFICERS

It is different when speaking of officers, as they do not, as a rule, suffer the same hardships after reaching an advanced class as do the younger and more vigorous men. Older men in the service are usually not on actual field duty, but hold offices that do not call for the same vigor as required in field duty, but is, in a sense, more important from a strategist's point of view.

PLUNDER

It will take years to build up what has been destroyed throughout the battlegrounds, not only in the rehabilitating of the home lands and agricultural districts, but of the industrial districts as well. Here wanton damage was done, but not as many suppose, from sheer desire to destroy in ghoulish temper, but for the sake of salvage and loot—dear to the heart of every

German. You will find that time will disclose the loot safe and sound and put to a practical purpose on German soil.

They considered themselves the victors in truth and little dreamed what fate had in store for them through American intervention. Had they known that retreat and defeat was likely to overtake them, they would have spared more of the country, knowing that in the end indemnities would be claimed, but as it was, and with victory so clearly defined before them, they looted and burnt and left terror in their wake to so impress the people of the conquered territory that no hand would be lifted against them from sheer terror of the fate that would ensue, and also to impress them with the importance and dread of German militarism.

The people of the invaded districts were not easily cowed into submission, and their defiance and their tauntings of the invaders brought about a swift and stern punishment, especially severe on the women and children of the districts. Many were taken as hostages and suffered hardships and torture from their ignorant and brutal task masters. Rape and carnage go hand in hand in the vanguard of an army of invasion, especially where the army has been in the field for an indefinite time. This is not always a sign of degeneracy of a race, but is the natural sequence when restraint of passions and lust is not part of the training of the soldier.

Men return to the primitive when on the march, and heretofore the battle cry has always been, to the victor belongs the spoils.

It is not my desire to excuse or condone these crimes; they are beastly and repulsive, but are not to be held as a blot against any one nation's honor or made an issue in the world's parley.

SON WITH ME

France and Belgium will be held sacred throughout the world as the resting places of so many brave lads of all nations. My own son sleeps among them there, in the eyes of the world, but in reality his body lies at peace beneath the sod, while his spirit lives on with me.

GERMAN REPUBLIC

France need have no fear of another invasion. Germany as a republic will lose all zest for war. The payment demanded of her through indemnity claims will rest heavy upon her shoulders for many years to come, and like all democracies she will be content to rest within her own borders. Her internal troubles are nearing an end, and she will emerge free from oppressions and from Kaiserism. This much the war has done for her—given her freedom through defeat, while victory would have meant further enslavement for her people. God was with them, but not in the way that they thought.

Mysterious are the workings of the Master to human mind so frail, but always with an end in view of love that cannot fail. The downfall of monarchy in Germany will mean not only freedom to her own people, but freedom from the fear of everlasting hatred and revenge that would haunt the minds of the closer allies.

When peace at last settles boundary disputes and real peace settles upon the earth, it will be a lasting one. France has never been free from the bugbear of German autocracy and militarism of the empire throughout the years of her existence, and even now, when peace is apparently at hand, she fears for a recurrence in the future, but of this I assure her there is no danger.

The people of Germany will have a voice in the matter in the future, and when such a question is brought up for the decision of the voters it is usually vetoed without much dissent of opinion.

INDEMNITY

They have had to pay dearly in the blood of their loved ones for the ambitious and arrogant demands of their former leaders, and will in the years to come be heavily taxed to pay the material costs, not only of the actual warfare, but of the indemnities claimed as well, and when you strike a German through his pocketbook you strike at a vital point.

Germany is well able to pay her debts, as she is a prosperous and thriving country, and her people are noted for their thrifty and hard working ways, and then, too, her country remains practically intact as to damage created by the war. She would be ready at very short notice to resume her trade relations with the world, but the freedom enjoyed in the days before the war will naturally be restricted to her now, although a boycott of her goods will not be sanctioned by the peace envoys, as it would not tend to help matters to impede her in obtaining resources from which to adjust her claims, and in my opinion this is not only just but right, in so far that to bankrupt her now through an international boycott would only react against those who hold just claims against her. If she became bankrupt through their efforts she might in revenge repudiate all the national debts held against her treasury and defy the world to collect them from an empty purse, so for that reason alone, if for no other, sane reasoning powers must be used, not retaliative methods.

GERMANY AND THE LEAGUE

Germany must be included in the League of Nations. Her new form of government gives her that privilege. She is as an infant in the first phases of a new life, and must receive help and encouragement in her first days so that she

may grow into a strong, sturdy republic, worthy of a place in the world's category among the other larger nations, and not left outside of the pale to degenerate into an anarchistic state and a menace to all the world.

Her new leader is a man of keen perception and honesty of purpose, not only for his own subjects, but in the relations they will hold with the Entente later, and time will show that he is worthy as a ruler of the land.

MEMORY

It will be years before France and Belgium can forget the wounds they received at the hands of the invaders, but time will soften their hearts and dull the memories now so keenly alive to their losses, and hatred of the foe will gradually lessen into tolerance and finally into a relationship less poignant when they see that the new régime is not as was the old. When that day comes then truly Christ's influence will have reached through the dark clouds and brought the light.

WHY WAR IS HELL

War is hell, truly expressed by those three words, and the pity of it all is that the innocent suffer with those who really deserve a cruel fate.

The soldier in his trench does not suffer in facing death one-half as acutely as do his loved

ones safe from the horrors of war at home. He is in the thick of the fray waiting with tense breath for the command that means action, ready to go at a moment's notice wherever duty calls, regardless of what fate may have in store for him.

Fear may be lurking in his heart, but he dare not show its grip on him to his comrades, and so he must, by sheer will power, throw off the spirit and assume a courageous bearing and forget even to think of the probable consequences that may follow a command. In this he is unconsciously supported by his companions, as all rest under the same clouded vision, or state of mind, and look one to the other for invisible support, and to God for spiritual help in their time of need, while those at home can only watch and wait with the dread spectre of what might be ever at their side, and this is hell, indeed, as well I know from actual experience while in the flesh. Hell, too, follows through the ruin of home lands and hope for the peasant, and the town folks as well.

Mere death is not the hell of war, it is but the blessing and brightness of war. The hell comes to those whom death has passed by and left maimed and tortured almost to madness, as well as to those widowed and orphaned through death's call.

Many a maimed and mangled soldier would

have gladly exchanged places with a buddy gone before, but it is one of the prices that must be paid, though I must say it is hard on him who foots the bill and who are offered up as a living sacrifice upon the altar of war, and yet, hard as it seems, they are in reality part of God's wonderful plan for the salvation of the world from deadly hate and jealousy that brings on war in all its phases. They remain as testimony of the horrors of war, and through their sacrifices and sufferings the world will be urged to adopt a plan whereby war will cease almost entirely from the earth, and arbitration will take its place.

BROTHERHOOD

When this plan is formulated to the satisfaction of all and put into operation, it will bring brotherhood of man throughout the world to as near an entirety as can be had between men of different nationalities and creeds, and even the horrors of the great conflict will be seen to have, through their very horror, brought about God's will through the world.

Stop and shudder to count the cost of all of this and you will, perhaps, wonder that such drastic means should have been used to bring about all this I speak of, but if you knew men and their ways, as I thought I did but clearly do now, then you would see that no other way was open to bring brotherhood about, and even

yet there is and will be much dissension on the subject before its final acceptance by the world powers.

Politics stand more in the way of its completment than does difference of opinion in regards to its commendments, but it is not to be left to the dictates of a powerful few, but to the will of the peoples most interested, and will be forced to an issue through public opinion, I might say, as the voices of the masses are usually classed under that heading.

INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

There need be no fear of any one nation dominating the league, as each will have a certain place and allotment of power that time cannot change, and politics will not enter into the question at any time, as there is no such thing as international politics, or party partisanship, and national politics will not figure at all, as far as any influences are concerned. What a great thing it will be for the countries so united together for mutual protection and help! And America can truly be said to be the mother of the league through the idealism of her ruler.

If war had not assumed the terrible proportions and aspects that it presented during these last years of conflict there would have been no logical excuse for the formation of such a league and war would have still been flourishing throughout the fair lands it ravaged, but with

modern science at command of the greater nations involved war assumed as horrible an aspect as could be devised, and one that was not even conjectured in wildest fancy or dream.

WAR GAS

Little more it seems could have been devised or invented to outscale and outdo that which was in use to deal death and horror upon man. I cannot conceive of anything more effective in dealing death through torture than the use of the so-called gases, and chief among them all for inflicting excruciating suffering to those unfortunate enough to breathe its fumes was the deadly mustard gas. Shell or grenade would kill or maim, but not leave its victim in the same tortured condition as did the gases, and even in maiming, health was not impaired to anywhere near the same extent as when a man suffered through gasing. That was part of hell, indeed, to go through with.

The first years of warfare were years of lost hopes and dread defeats to the Allies, and the blackest clouds gathered just before the intervention of America. There were some battles before that time that could be called glorious in history, but for the most part it was merely a war of machinery, with little chance for individual glory on the field, as in former wars, and when the romance of war is reduced to a science of machine against machine for mere

slaughtering, then truly it is high time that war be relegated to the scrap heap along with other antiques of ancient times.

MILITARY POLICE

It will take more than mere scraps of paper, though signed by all those qualified to sign for their respective governments, to down the war god over the earth. It will take a competent force of military police to keep peace and hold war at bay, not that any one or a dozen lands will require policing for any length of time, but the fear of the power behind them must be strong enough, and they must be kept in readiness to go wherever duty calls without delay of red tape or passing legislative law.

The interest on the present debt, incurred through lack of discipline of these very issues now at hand, would ten times over pay the cost of any measures America will have to take in the future in regards to settlement of dispute and in joining with other powers in keeping peace intact.

LOVE, JUSTICE AND LIBERTY

How many lives would have been spared and how many homes now desolated would still be warm with a bright hearth fire of cheerful glow, and how many orphans and widows would still be happy in the arms of their dear loved one, or parent proud of son in life? It is, after all,

but a little to ask of the world and its people, but did not one come before the same tribunal more than nineteen hundred years ago pleading the same cause, with prayer on His lip and love in His heart? Peace, five letters that make up this simple word, but what a world of meaning it conveys! Love, justice, liberty, truth, brotherhood and humanity to all, above all, throughout the world wherever the sun does rise, wherever the sun does set. Scribes and Pharisees attacking on every hand for reasons just as base and selfish and self-centered as in the days of yore.

Don't think for one minute of your time that these same men are using all their powers of eloquence and persuasion to throw suspicion and doubt upon the good features of the question because of loyalty to their constitution, which they so loudly acclaim, but which, by their very actions of disloyalty, their actions in the line of duty well done, they are discrediting each day and month of their tenure in position of trust.

FLAG OF GLORY

Oh, flag of glory! Oh, symbol of justice to one and all, how many, many have stood beneath your folds upon the rostrum, not to uphold justice with hearts filled to overflowing, but to harangue or to blight a man's fair name through mud slinging method! Oh, flag, sym-

bolic of all that is just and true, founded on justice to all, did and does not your folds blush in very shame for the ones who feel not the sacrilege of befouling your purity when they spoke in your name and that of the country you represent?

The flag that led so many bravely forward, in not only the war just about closed, but through the wars preceding this one as well, should not be used promiscuously wherever and whenever desired as a form of decoration only, but wherever the flag is used or unfurled reverential thoughts should enter into the act, and reverence be shown the flag at all times.

It is a symbol throughout the world today of hope, where hope was an almost forgotten virtue, and let all help by just and sane reasoning toward the vital issues of the moment, incidentally setting aside all political and party partisanship and do all to put through with help and strength and courage of public acquiescence on the great measure before you today. Make the flag stand for all the principles she was born to uphold.

AMERICA'S POSITION

Is America, after all the sacrifices of blood and youth that she has given to war, to draw within herself now, when the great work is about to begin, and cry, no, no, I am not my brother's keeper; I will have no hand in other

affairs than my own, but when you get everything settled to the satisfaction of all I will condescend to ask for your good will and incidentally your trade. I am rich in worldly goods, and resources of unlimited quantities I hold within my domains. These I will barter and sell to you in competition with other nations who stood as sponsors when we failed, and I crave your indulgences in all things pertaining to money and power that I have invested within myself, but do not ask me when clouded skies overtake you and trouble threatens at your door. Respect my isolation and geographical perfection as much as do my people, and leave me to wallow in my wealth without interference or fear that I will be called upon to entangle my constitution in foreign alliance.

THE ANSWER

O men and women, thinkers of America, will this be your answer to the cry of the world today? Will this answer be sent to those waiting and trusting in the strength and the justice of the land that Old Glory upholds?

The Israelites crying out in the wilderness were no more in need of help and guidance than are many of the nations of the world looking toward America for strength and help. Be virile, true to form, you red-blooded sons of liberty, and emblazon that word throughout the world.

Stand back of your President in this, his greatest issue, and help down the war gods forever, hoisting justice, humanity and peace in their place on the throne. Help those who need help at this time, and take the tail off the cur through curtailing the powers that threaten to kill this everlasting peace, and let the yelps of the curs be heard so loudly that none other will care to undergo the same fate.

CHAPTER XX

FRANCE AND BELGIUM

IN the former chapter, in speaking of war and its phases, I put Belgium and France foremost as bearing the brunt and scars of battle. This is true literally, as, while other countries played important parts in the world conflict, France and Belgium were the actual battlefields upon which the war was fought and won, and consequently they have borne the weight and the devastation necessarily following upon such scenes, and it is to them that the world owes most, both in help given through co-operative methods in helping them to demand their just rights against the transgressors, and in standing by them through their just claims to a proper protection in the future years to come.

ENGLAND AT WAR

England shared the task nobly, but her country's home lands did not suffer to any extent, though her sons have shed their blood upon those sacred fields of war-torn Belgium and France. She, too, has incurred enormous debts, and has been to great expense in doing her part to make the world a safe place, not

only for her own subjects, but the subjects of all nations of the world as it stands today. She, too, will have a place in history immortal, and she, too, will be in accord with the new idealism of a League of Nations as outlined and formulated.

ENGLISH WOMEN

Her women rallied to the call of the crown as readily as did her sons, and they should receive recognition and commendment for their part in the war.

ITALY

Italy, too, must needs be recognized as an able ally, and while her armies were mostly engaged upon different fronts than were the other allies, she did noble work for the great cause of freedom.

So, too, of all the other ententes engaged in the victory war. All will, in the end, receive just reward for duty well done in responding to the call in time of need.

RUSSIA

Russia, while in a deplorable state of turmoil and havoc now, was at the beginning one of the strong allies and the hope on the eastern front. For her help in those first stirring days of warfare, some part of the glory must be tendered to her as a nation.

If Germany had had no army to meet upon

that frontier she would have been able within very short time and with quick dispatch to defeat the nations with whom she was engaged upon her western border land, and defeating the nations that impeded her passage to the channel, she would have, with her immense armies and modern, up-to-the-minute equipment, been able to have swept on across the narrow channel and to have overpowered her greatest foe; so, after all, to the nation for whom the world holds pity, mingled with disgust now, history will look back over the years and see that she has had a day around which glory and even grandeur has shown.

Did you ever see a great, clumsy bear, muzzled and chained, led about the streets by some decrepit and thieving, lying, human flotsam and dancing to the tune of fiddle or organ, or just command of this same captor, and if you have ever had this experience it cannot help but strike you, as it does me, of being an appropriate example of poor old Russia's plight at the present moment. Big, clumsy and without much conception of right and wrong, or justice and truth. She is visualized to my mind, as she will be to yours, through this comparison, as a great trusting yet suspicious and even dangerous shaggy bear, captive for the moment by the lawless and uncouth mob, but if aroused in time to her peril she could in one sweep of her mighty paw down that lowly master, tear loose

the chain of bondage, pry off the muzzle of oppression and slavery and become free.

She has resources and untold treasures within her boundaries as yet undeveloped and unmined. Her peasants have so long been held beneath the iron heel of oppression that they are little above the four-footed creatures of the earth in development of mind and in literacy, but they could be brought up to a standard equal in time to any of the races of Slav blood, and Russia could become one of the great powers of the world in truth as well as in name.

She stands today in all her demoralization a menace to the world on one hand, and on the other a great and lasting good will come out of her state of unrest and repugnance. Good will come, as I say, in that she is a great living example of just what lawlessness and bolshevism, or in others words anarchism, can do to a nation under its control.

Would any other country care to have the same conditions exist within its borders as exists in Russia today? America has learned her lesson through this same example aforementioned, and she is taking the right steps toward ridding her shores of the danger of bolshevism by enacting laws and also fearlessly carrying them through by deporting all undesirable and dangerous aliens. In doing this she is nipping in the bud what would have been a source of great menace and trouble to her.

CHAPTER XXI

TAFT AND WILSON

THE President parts with his people for the second time to cross the ocean and complete the great work started there. Tonight he gives his farewell speech before sailing, and with him on the rostrum another of prominence will also give an address. This, too, will be a precedent in the history of America when a President affiliated with one political clan is supported fully in his ideas and plans for a great issue by an ex-opponent and also ex-President who is affiliated with the opposite political power, especially at a time when this same opponent power is doing all possible to hinder and discredit the President, in both his domestic and foreign plan, not only from a party standpoint in that they fear the opposite party's power, but for the reason that they are in line-up to have this opposite party discredited in every way possible before the final campaigns for the presidential election, but could they but see, as do I, they would realize it is a damnable way for men supposed to represent the nation to act, and for that reason, even though personal prestige and ambition could lie behind the actions of my former friend, it is, as time alone can show,

much in his favor that he stands behind and beside the President in this great issue.

THE PRESIDENT'S CRITICS

Has not the man enough to bear and contend with in being torn between two duties, one in his native land and one on foreign shores, without leaving these home shores with a feeling in his heart and a cross to bear as heavy almost as that which Christ did carry on His last and farewell journey on earth, but as did Christ of old triumph in glorified manner against his foes and crucifiers, so, too, will the President overcome in the end his opponents, though not through death. I have called shame so many times in previous chapters of this spiritual work upon the heads of men in the great Congress who are acting in a questionable and damnable manner at this critical time in America's history and when in truth her very honor in history is at stake, that I feel I can say little more than what I have already said to them, unless my spiritual ire rises up and calls them damn traitors; to America, to her people, and to the President who rules her now, and in spite of their opposition will rule her two years more, and, gentlemen, to whom this chapter is especially addressed, two years means twenty-four whole months, and 730 days, less none today, March 4th, and much can he do in that time if he carries the same determination for right and

justice to all throughout the world as well as throughout the nation in those future days, as well as he has in the past ones.

A SPIRIT'S THOUGHTS

Question not that these are the words of the indomitable lion of old. The same, and yet not the same, as of old. A spirit now, but just as much interested in the world's affairs as of yore, especially where they pertain to the affairs at a critical juncture in America's life and where the least misstep on her part or that of her ruler and lawmakers will send her prestige and power crashing to hell with such a thud in falling because of the high plane upon which she stands today that the whole world would shake from her fall. Give her anarchism, bolshevism, which is practically the same thing, in the measure as is meted out in Russia, preferably to letting her meet dishonor through political wrangles and their sequences now.

HONOR

Surely Old Glory and the bald-pated eagle, our own symbols of national honor, must stand for more than mere politics as played by those in power. It takes a man, not a mere politician or figurehead of a political party, to attend to the affairs of state now. Deplorable enough to have a man of such caliber in that high office in normal times of peace, but if such had been

the case at this juncture in the crisis it would have been a calamity.

WILSON

Mr. Wilson, the present occupant of the chair as ruler of the nation, is not a politician in any sense of that word, nor could he even be called a great statesman or an eloquent talker, in so far as the word eloquent carries, but he is a man at heart and one of studious and reasoning mentality, and one who can, and does, give serious thought to the problems of the day as well as the past and the future of all classes and all needs. He is not, in a sense, over-prudent, nor is he inclined too much on the lavish side, but in so far as he can see his just duty in just that measure has he tried to fulfill that duty, regardless of powerful influences at work to coerce or swerve him from the path set out by him through his study of the question in hand.

The thinkers of the nation, no matter what their affiliations may be, should be able to see all this that I have just expounded clearly, defined through actions of the past, if they would but give this subject their unbiased and unprejudiced attention long enough to study up the facts without taking political poison along with the facts, which same poison is injected merely to cast doubt and suspicion where none should exist, and out of purely party reasons,

which seem to be the bitterest at this time, on account of the prestige gained by the personage in power through his clean slate in dealing with all.

CHAPTER XXII

W. W. AND W. H. T.

A FINE speech, boys, a fine speech, and one that showed the Americanism of your hearts and minds as well. Two noble men welded into one in a great cause is a rare and glorifying sight to see at any time, and especially more so at this time and where each are of opponent party partisanship. An appreciative audience, forming a great unit to a fitting farewell for a time of the chief executive.

CONGRESS

With Congress adjourned and the President on the ocean, America will notice no difference in the running of her machinery, although many hysterical politicians will rant and rave about the country being in an unprotected state through the desertion by the President; but fie on such political rot. No thinking man would listen a second to such a ridiculous statement, as the laws of the country take care of her in all things, and not one iota of duty is slacked by anyone in official capacity now that Congress is adjourned; but what slack and unfulfilled duties were left undone at the close of this session. Bills that required immediate legislation and action were thrust aside along with others of less commendation, but of enough

worth to have received consideration at the hands of those paid to consider them and not paid to furnish a spectacle of ludicrousness to the many gathered together to witness the passing of the old régime.

There would have been no need for all-night sessions in which little was accomplished after all if business had been carried on when it was the business to carry on instead of playing politics and airing grievances of personal and political stench.

A dignified spectacle, indeed, to see the great men of the land sprawled out in several postures, dead to the world in sleep, during the last session of the Congress and being awakened to answer to their call. Great things these men could do in that condition of mind and body. No wonder history must hide the blot on the page that must be entered in its covers.

Men must be well rested, with brain and body vigorous from refreshing sleep, to be able to do the best that is in them for any cause, and no man can or could do justice to any act calling either for strength of body or mind if that same body is worn out with fatigue or the mind befogged with drowsiness.

RAILROADS

The railroad appropriation bill was one requiring immediate legislative favor. Without it much trouble will ensue.

This is not the logical time for turning back the railroads to private control, nor is it the time to make them a party issue and to hamper their workings through party bitternesses or personal desires, but it is the logical time to give this great mobilized and now nationalized project a fair chance to test out the worth of the system of government control under government supervision.

War and its entailments could not do else than cause great expense and complicated conditions to arise because of the fact that economy and in a way perfect systematized railroad work had to give way to the pressing needs of war, and even personal comfort of civilian passengers was curtailed to a great extent in restricting passenger service, limiting train service on local as well as transcontinental lines, and taking off luxurious and commodious parlor or accommodation cars and stripping the lines to a strictly war basis, setting aside all precedents in sidetracking passenger trains to allow the passage of freight filled trains right of way over the road.

The sudden armistice, coming as it did at a totally unexpected time, saved the country at large much more in the way of drastic measures pertaining to rail traffic and inconvenience of travel. Had war continued for another twelve months or more America would have seen, or would rather have been forced upon a strictly

war basis in this matter, as well as others, and where the case was, at the time of signing of the armistice, that the public was requested to curtail all travel as far as possible to aid the government in conserving, they would have had to curtail traveling in cases where absolute proof of the need of travel could not be shown to the satisfaction of the officials in charge. This is what happened in practically all of the allied countries, although they were forced in many cases to either suspend night traffic or run without lights for fear of air raids which were directed against trains and traffic, but this step would not have been necessary in America.

If the government had allowed the railroads to remain in private hands during the war period in which she was engaged, there would have been a sad calamity in regards to the transportation of troops and supplies; as it was, with all lines mobilized and civilian traffic practically demoralized to a great extent, it was a great feat to bring the transportation of troops and war material up to scratch.

The government has played fair with all railroad employes in regard to all just demands made by them, and would, if allowed the maintenance of the roads for a sufficient length of time, in normal times, prove out the wisdom of government ownership versus private ownership, and would be able, I am sure, to win all points in her favor, though the budget of the

past may look formidable to unskilled and conservative people who happen to be given the statistics by far-sighted politicians.

By all means, now that the first great step has been taken in the right direction through acquiring these roads, the government should not return them back again to private ownership, but should keep them free of political stench and filthiness and create some iron-clad program in regards to the proper handling of the roads through other than political channels.

LEASING THE ROADS

This could be worked out on the plan of leasing the roads, but still holding the invested ownership with the privilege of supervision and cancellation of all leases if unsatisfaction is found in their operation. This would net the government quite a tidy sum in the long run and would solve the problem of anti-politics in their ownership and operation, too; but to go back to the old system would be a great mistake, especially in these pre-peace times, as America cannot afford to allow the threats of a general strike and tie-up over the country that might ensue, if conditions were not exactly favorable, to harass her now.

CHAPTER XXIII

SHIPPING

ALONG with the railroad question, because of their unity of purpose—transportation—the shipping bill was a most important one. America should never allow her flag to be hauled down upon the ocean in favor of a stronger rival nation's supremacy in mercantile shipping bottoms, but she should keep up the good work started in building and acquiring ships, governmentally owned, and leased in the same manner as would and could be applied to the railroads so as to eliminate politics in one fell swoop, but as in the case of the railroad leases, if such a plan is worked out, complete supervision and a cancellation clause for violation of contracts would be properly inserted in the documents.

AMERICAN BOTTOMS

The American flag was at one time seen in almost every port of the world, and she was queen of the seas, but by a colossal calamity she allowed her flag to be lowered and lost so much prestige on the seas that at the time of the declaration of war in 1917 her flag was a curiosity in foreign ports and was mainly unfurled from coastwise vessels.

High priced labor, such as is demanded by American laws, was one of the main factors in this loss, as no American owned bottom could compete successfully with foreign bottoms whose nation's laws were very lenient in the respect of labor and other little niceties in which American laws were seemingly drastic, but with higher priced labor and seamen's unions demanding recognition in foreign lands this law will seem less drastic, and the more intelligent crews that can be acquired through the higher wage scale will in the end prove profitable after all, as the modern ships are of different type in the entirety than the old models, such as were used in former days, and crews of less numbers but more intelligence are a necessity now instead of a rarity as then, when any man with legs and hands could be used.

BRUTALITY

Many were shipped in a shanghied state to be kicked and mauled by brutal task-masters and fed upon food that would be repulsive even to the lowly swine, but such is not the case upon well-manned ships such as the American bottoms are today. Brutality is not tolerated and the food and quarters are excellent as the sailors can testify to. No more of the "Wolf Larsen" type of masters, especially on American owned ships, and incidentally, I may add, no more of the "Cookie" type of cooks, with

due apologies to the spirit of Jack London for using this simile.

EXPORTING

America with all her vast resources must needs protect herself and her exporting business against discrimination, and to do this she must be in a position to protect her interests in owning her own ships, not only of the coast-wise vessels, but also ocean going carriers as well, and in owning these boats she can well afford to meet any and all competition in foreign ports, due to discriminations in regard to rates which could be met with successfully where a private owner would throw up hands and call enough if confronted with losses through lowered rates and high-priced labor and maintenance cost.

America is now the foremost nation in the world today, and she should hold this supremacy in all things, even if forced to ask appropriations for a while to meet the demands of these unnormal times, and then when the world becomes sane again and normality again rests over all, she will be able to make up for the budgets spent at this time, and her flag will remain unfurled throughout the world on seas that have been strangers to the flag before, and in some ports, too, where she has not always been a stranger in the days of her supremacy of the sea in merchant craft.

The navy will turn out as fine a line of able

seamen as can be found anywhere upon the earth; in fact, in my opinion they will be superior to any found on the ocean, and these same lads will come clean and strong and filled with knowledge of the seas, directly to the great merchant marine fleet of the government, ready to take up the duties of peace time pursuits as readily as they took up the pursuits of war with all of its entailing dangers and discomforts.

THE CALL OF THE SEA

The call of the sea is one that can only be understood by an experienced sailor or traveler upon the ocean, and it so gets into one's blood after a time that there is but one answer to its call, and that is to again return to the life on the ocean waves.

Life on shore, with its daily monotonous and trivial happenings of real everyday life, grows irksome and deadly after a short time spent again upon the shore, and the siren of the sea begins to call and nothing must do but that it be answered by a return of at least one voyage upon her bosom, and then, too, the berths to be had on the newer vessels will be positions of worth, in so far that they will allow of promotion to experienced seamen with rapidity, and this, coupled with the fair wage, will be a strong appeal in itself, especially at a time when labor on land will be in an unsettled and scarce condition.

BUSY TIMES

America will have much work yet to do in bringing back her brave ones from foreign shores, and this task alone, not counting upon the great task of bringing back equipment and stores, will occupy her ships for some time to come, and after this work is off her hands for all time she will have all she can do to handle the exportation of her goods and foodstuffs, not only to war-stricken European lands devastated of industries and resources by war's dire hand, but also to lands untouched by the ravages of war in so far as the word devastation would signify.

FOREIGN MARKETS

There is a great market, even now, for much, but there is a far greater market that will be created especially for American products, in both the finished and raw state, directly peace in truth is declared, and bolshevism is brought to bay in European lands now cowering under its yoke, and the great cry of American exporters will be for ships and more ships in which to carry their goods.

If America herself is in no position to furnish these bottoms as needed, she must give way to foreign competitors who will see to it that enough ships are furnished to satisfy this demand. Rest assured that the goods will not be carried at a loss, or for any philanthropic

motive, so why allow others to garner where we ourselves have but to sow to gather the fruits of our toil?

BIG QUESTIONS FOR THE VOTERS

If Congress will not ratify a movement to gain and to retain supremacy of the merchant craft of the sea, then it is the duty of the voters of America to demand that this question be put to the vote of the people of America direct, and make demand that the direct vote carry this question without further parley or delay. In fact, were it possible, all such big and what seem to be overwhelming questions for Congress to settle should be submitted to the people direct and allow them to either pass or veto the measures by vote without political interference.

AMERICA FOR AMERICANS

America first, last and always for Americans born upon her shores, and those who have immigrated to her shores and have become naturalized citizens with the intention of remaining so and doing her credit through fair dealing in voting for the measures best for her welfare, and America first, last and always in supremacy on land or sea, with power above all, gained not through fear, but through what her flag stands for on land and sea—justice, fairness and liberty to all.

CHAPTER XXIV

DEMobilIZATION

THE demobilizing of the troops, both at home camps or cantonments and of the troops from abroad upon their return, will occupy the attention for some little time to come. This question is one argued strenuously by men high in the government service, some being skeptical as to the wisdom of the course now taken in demobilizing as rapidly as is consistent to governmental plans and ideas as to the proper method of the procedure; others taking the stand that the enormous expense of keeping up a body of men both in cantonments and abroad is an unnecessary burden upon the resources of an already overburdened government treasury, and contending that demobilization, if anything, is not going on at as rapid a pace as they would like to see accomplished. Both are wrong in a sense, and both are discussing a question that also finds echo in thousands of hearts and homes, and that is why I will try and give my little message this evening on this particular subject, and try and give the version as my spirit mind can see its solution.

THE SOLUTION

In the first place all must remember that the American army and navy of today numbers

some million or two of men still in the khaki or the blue, and most of these men have been conscripted into the service, taken at random from every class and walk of life, regardless of position, power or wealth.

The millionaire's son was no more favored than was the son of the poorest among the land, and each and every man of them held some niche in the life of America. The wealthy idlers and the hobo, or willing, weary idlers, excepted, but of the vast army of men of worth alone I am speaking.

Now, of the many positions that were of a necessity given up by these countless men in answering to their lottery number, each and every one were either filled by others or done away with for conservation causes, and that is the great issue upon which the wisdom of hasty demobilization mainly rests. Would it be just and proper to with one great proclamation announce to the soldiers and sailors scattered over the earth: "The war is over and you are free to go when and where you will; boats will be furnished as quickly as possible to bring you back to America's shores, but when you reach there no further delay will ensue in regard to your liberty." Could anyone conceive of such a scene or order being conceived by the military authorities of the country and allowing of such disorder as would necessarily ensue at the ports of disembarkment, or the camps

in American territory? No. Everything in the military department of the government is attended with system, which at times seems irksome and unnecessary red-tape matter to those who come under its authority, but that is what makes for a perfect discipline and order throughout the commands, and each order as issued has gone under microscopic inspection as to its wisdom and propriety before allowed to be passed on as a command that must be obeyed without question or delay, and as the military affairs of the country are in seemingly capable hands, little question can be made against the methods of procedure in this case under discussion, that of demobilization; and going back to the subject of conscripted men in service, I will add a few more remarks upon their case in returning too hastily to civilian pursuits.

POSITIONS FILLED

As I remarked before, many of their positions were filled by other workers, either of the same sex above the draft ages, or disqualified for service in some manner, or else by members of the fair sex who so willingly stepped into the ranks of the workers called to the colors, and in many cases these newer employes gave as good satisfaction as did those whose places they assumed, or as in many cases where female help superseded the men, better satisfaction with less

pay in return. Where this has been the case, both employes and employer are loathe to make a change even in favor of a returned hero now that the need for high pitched patriotism seems to have been passed, and soldiers are returning in such numbers as to be a common sight upon the streets, where their absence before had been noticeable in the days when youthful manhood seemed suddenly to have disappeared from our midst, and the young lassies drooped in their lonesome state and men and women all over the country vowed to remain true to the men in service and to either save a position for them on their return, or to relinquish any position that they filled, as was thought temporarily at the time, when the need for workers was so great that many who had never known what toil or service meant, joined the great rank of wage earners, as a patriotic as well as a remunerative duty, but now that the war is over and peace treaties are being formulated in Paris, how many are keeping their pledges to these same boys upon their return to civilian life?

Is there enough room for them to assume new duties in the workers' ranks when their old ones are denied them?

THE PROBLEM

In the Middle West this situation is not acute in so far as labor can absorb these returning men about as fast as they are mustered out of

service at present writing, as the Middle West is in the throes of prosperity that is arising from natural growth and not through inflation caused by war, but in the coastal states, especially in the eastern part of the country, the situation as regards employment for returning soldiers is getting more serious each day, not alone from the lack of employment to be had so much as from the fact that the returning men are seeking better positions than were left by them, feeling in way that they are entitled through service in their country's name to better things than what they left, and this is making it hard for the government agents, who are trying to do their best by the men to return them to civilian pursuits, to place them in these overcrowded cities where daily plants that have been busy in turning out material for the war are shutting down each day and turning out hundreds of employes to add confusion to an already confusing problem; and then, too, many of the soldiers with unspent money in their pockets want to play the hero rôle a while before taking up what will seem to many a drab and monotonous existence after the greater experiences through which they have passed. While these men are greeted and feted for a while, their popularity will not last forever, and when it wanes they, too, will add another surplus to the problem, and that is why demobilization of all troops should be made upon

a basis in regard to the supply and demand of labor, as to dump the troops upon the land without system and with no regard as to their ability to find employment would be a great disaster now that Congress has seen fit to disregard the bill before her for taking care of the soldiers in this very regard. It is just these things that, while seeming as of little account to the selected few, prove to be the big factors after all, especially when men, torn from their environments and sent to face death and discomforts, are returned to private life without provision being made for them, as if their lives were but pegs in a vast game and to be discarded when no more use can be found for them.

CHAPTER XXV

ARMY UPKEEP

THE expense attached to the upkeep of a large standing army is of necessity an enormous one, but considering all sides of the question, the army's upkeep in itself is not entirely an extravagance in the sense that it was formed to do no real duty, or accomplish no real good, or in the sense that it is a luxury forced upon the people of America and kept in large numbers, as counted by dollars, solely for prestige or show of power, but because there is no other way to deal with this question than by footing the bills and demobilizing as rapidly as is consistent with the best ideas of men in authority and who are best able to handle this part of the machinery used for war purposes, as only through lessening of numbers and therefore lessening supplies can expense be cut at all, as everything that could be done was done to eliminate useless expenditure in military and naval departments.

Some few cases of money spent unwisely and unwell may be unearthed from time to time, but on the whole the military and naval authorities will come through clean.

HALF MILLION

As far as raising and maintaining a standing army of half million men is concerned, I myself am in favor of such a step, as I think the United States is fully able to maintain an army of that size at any time, whether for peace or war, and if prepared to throw an army of that size into the field upon short notice there will be less bluffing and blowing by other nations every time they have some slight grievance against the government.

UNIVERSAL TRAINING

It would be one of the finest moves ever undertaken by the government if universal training was made compulsory to all youths between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one, not excepting the high school boys of younger age who should be given all the fundamental setting up exercises of a soldier's training, which would stand the boys in good stead in their later years of real military training.

I do not advocate that a boy should be taken from his civilian pursuits and sent to a cantonment, or camp, for three years of his youth, but I do feel that part time of these three most important years of his life be given over to the training for duty as a son of his country if demand should be made upon him, and not only for that purpose alone do I advocate this training, but for the physical good of the boy and

for the making of his body stronger and healthier for the training. The teaching on hygiene that is an accompaniment to military training of today in American forces is fine, whether on foreign or domestic shores.

Too much stress cannot be laid upon the reports of the examining boards engaged to examine men for both army and navy during the war, and upon the amazing number of men whose physical conditions were brought under the pitiless light of a military medical examination. From all reports the majority of cases passed upon were curable, or would have been preventable if proper hygienic treatments were given or had been used by the afflicted ones. So many, many youths between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one were in bad condition physically, when in truth they should have been in the very glory of their youthful lives, but through ignorance, as I just mentioned, of proper hygiene and through failure of parents to discuss vital and important sexual questions with these boys, there came this appalling discovery at a time when they seemed most needed in perfect health for their duty to their flag. Had these boys been given training along the proper lines in earlier years we would have seen no such reports as reached headquarters and the press.

The United States learned one great lesson through her entry into war that will never be

erased from the memory of man or nation, and that was the need of clean minds as well as clean bodies are one of the big factors in the making of a successful man, whether he is to be used for military, naval or civilian duty, and this great lesson was taught to all men in service, as well as being expounded to civilians from pulpit and rostrum, and that is the reason that the American army stands today as the finest, cleanest, most moral body of men ever organized into an army.

Some there are who transgressed the laws, but this number is infinitesimally small when compared with the vast number of men under arms throughout America's participation in the war, but on the whole the record held, and was and is still, well merited, and not one soldier who returns from service to private life but is better all around for the change and training received, and this in itself should be a great argument in favor of universal training for the boys.

CANTONMENTS

The cantonments erected during the period of the war could be made good service of in being put to use as training camps for the young men, giving each a certain period of the year in which to undergo this training, and choosing, as during the war, by conscriptive method and allotment of number, so that all would come

under this law and none might escape, without fear of reprisal on the charge of desertion, or the colleges of the land could be taken over for this purpose as commandeered in war time, and fewer men congregated together at one time. Educational work of great benefit to them in private life could be given these same young men along with their military training, each graded according to his educational standing, and in this way given the fundament of an education that will do much to help in civilian life, and would be a great act of benevolence on the part of the nation and would in time repay her through better citizenship, as literacy among the masses is an asset to a nation where illiteracy becomes a liability.

CHAPTER XXVI

THE ARMY, NAVY AND MARINES

THE army and navy go hand in hand, with the marines over all, and the navy should be kept up to the maximum strength, if not to exceed the strength of any other power. America with all her resources is as able to maintain a big navy and army as any other nation, and in a sense better able.

DESTROYERS

The flotilla of destroyers should be kept up to the highest standard of efficiency and strength, as they are just the boats needed for coastal survey work and protection of the undefended shore lines of America, and their upkeep is on the whole, when considering their efficiency, not too exorbitantly great for the budget to stand. This is a type of boat that should be made a permanent fixture among the fighting craft with well trained and experienced crews to man the fleet. Of the larger craft, such as the regulation warships, there is too great an expense to their upkeep in proportion to their worth now, and they are outdated in a few years from the time of their launching by other types found more suitable and more

powerful, even though their original cost runs up into the millions. They would, to the land man, appear to be capable of being used for a half century at least, but experience has taught that ten years is a long life for a modern war vessel without new improvements being added, and for that reason I advocate the smaller vessel be made the mainstay, or larger wing of the navy, in these days when the danger of war seems past and a navy will be used more for show of power and prestige than for actual use in warfare.

HYDROPLANES

A goodly number of aircraft, or hydroplanes, should be also maintained in connection, more with the navy than as an adjunct to the army branch of armament, as aircraft are the most effective eyes of the modern wars and are used not only to spy out the enemy positions but to wreak damage as well, where other means of conveying bombs or ability to strike at the foe would not be available. In this way protection would be afforded to the coasts from hostile fleets, and transports of troops be detected through the eyes of a hydroplane soaring high above, connected by radio with the shore or fleet, warning of approaching danger, and if not able to destroy with bombs could give the range to the gunners on board the warships or on a shore battery.

OVER-PREPAREDNESS

Protection and preparedness, to a certain extent, are always needed regardless of any and all peace pacts or treaties to prevent a nation being taken by surprise by armed forces, but I do not advocate a standing army or navy of unnecessary strength, which would in time prove more of a boomerang in a political sense than it would or could prove itself useful.

THE NATIONAL GUARD

A wise move would be the abolishing of the National Guards throughout the country and using the appropriations made in their favor each year for other and more useful purposes, and if in need of military forces in any way use the Federal men instead and give them something to do. There is no reason that I can see for maintaining these civil or state organizations and appropriating money for their use when Federal troops can be called if need arises on short notice and seem to carry more weight or authority with the masses than do the state troops, as all transgressors stand more in fear of U. S. governmental authority than do they at state laws. This, no doubt, will cause quite a bit of contention among advocates and all those who favor the restoration of the National Guard to full powers again, but as I say, in my opinion as I see the situation now,

it is a sheer waste of the people's money collected by taxation from a tax burdened nation, a condition brought about through war's demands.

CHAPTER XXVII

DIVISION OF THE SPOILS

THE time is here when all questions in regard to the settlement of the war should and must be threshed out to the satisfaction of all powers concerned, and in such a way that no sediment of dissatisfaction will remain to bring about a rift later that could in time widen into a breach, and then into war. Such a question that is in controversy now among the peace delegates is the one of division of spoils of war among the Allies, each claiming certain parcels as their own through capture during the period of the war. This question must be settled, as I say, definitely and for all time before peace negotiations are gone into much deeper, and the logical way to settle all disputes is to declare the spoils of war the property of all allied nations engaged together in the war at the time of capture, and all to be divided on an equal basis with preferences to none.

There are certain captured articles, as I will refer to them by that name as I go along, that can hardly be called contraband, or subject to capture, even through the excuse of war, and

one of these articles is a cable laid beneath the sea and used to connect more than one neutral nation outside of the colonies of a belligerent nation. It is entirely within reason and proper rights to disconnect this article in any way possible so as to interfere with messages sent through its medium, but no one country should be allowed to maintain control of an article of this kind by calling it a prize of war, especially where it affects other nations not so engaged and where it could be used to react unfavorably against them in times of peace. This, then, should be made an issue of in the conference, and America being one of the countries affected by the capture, or so-called capture, by England of the Pacific cables should insist upon their disposal being made in such a way that will not work to her detriment in the future, as it would lay her at the mercy almost of foreign competitors in the trade fields of the West.

It is not right, nor is it just, that any one nation when fighting as an ally, aligned with other nations who are practically acting as her buffers, should take advantage of them in any way, although America came into the war after this so-called capture was effected in a sense.

America, it cannot be denied, did act in a buffer state in regard to England, as were it not for her interference at the time she entered, not as an ally, but as an associate in war, there would have been others deciding the fate of

the spoils of war and others dictating as to their disposal, as all the world knows today.

It is not my desire to bring up a controversy over the war, and the part all played in it at this time, but I do think that a bit of a reminder will not go amiss in a case where discrimination seems as if it might be assured against the United States, and that is the one thing that I cannot stand.

T. R. AT THE PEACE CONFERENCE

I was not invited to be a participant in the conference now going on at Paris, and for that reason, perhaps, it is best that I do not try and take up the questions being settled there, as my spirit self can overhear them, for I will confess that I am an unbidden guest at the feast, but luckily no one guesses the fact as I keep within my bounds and am rather quiet for a spirit of my caliber, even though at times I would revolt, I hold my peace, but I can discuss, without causing contention, the questions as they are released one by one to the press, though I am afraid that the peace conference will be in session long after I close this script on data, so I will confine my writings, as I say, to topics that can be discussed at this time, and then perhaps later I will return to take up the work again when I feel that I can do some good in my way.

BOUNDARY OF FRANCE

There is another question, though, that will and does come up in the conference, but which has been discussed outside the closed chambers as well, and that is the proper boundary line to be established to protect France from further invasion.

France will be conceded Alsace-Lorraine, that is a settled fact, as all the world feels that this is but her just due for what she has undergone in the World War, but further than that steps cannot be taken in all justice to establish a buffer state, seizing German soil for the purpose. This would be fair neither to the new Germany nor to the buffer states so created, and could but stand as a constant irritation and reminder in the future days when all the world will be trying to forget.

COLONIES

All captured German colonies should be held as international charges, and neither returned to German control nor given over as prizes to any one nation, even though that nation may have had the honor of capturing the colonies. Also, any navigable streams under discussion should come under the same head and be treated of in the same manner and made international as far as that they should be controlled, and all disputes settled through international arbi-

tration. This would settle all disputes in regard to the disposal of such articles in such a way that there could be no ill feeling brought to play against any one nation, for all would have a say in the matter, and all certainly have paid a high enough price to gain that end.

CHAPTER XXVIII

WILSON AT PARIS

THE position of the President as occupied in the peace chambers is not one to be envied, as he is looked upon by all the smaller principalities as a sponsor for them, and they look to him to settle all their difficulties and trials, not only those brought out by war, but some others that had been brewing for years, and this task in itself is not one to be overlooked or sidestepped, as often it is one of these small country's affairs that bring about larger entanglements. The allied nations had disposed of this question through secret pacts long ago in a simple way that would suit them admirably, and that was by simply dividing these smaller states as prizes of war, we might say, and giving to each nation in the pact those most suited to her needs. While this was in entire accord to the larger nations, it certainly did not fit in with the hopes and future aspirations of the principalities so involved and would have brought about endless friction if this step had been allowed to consummate, and in being asked to act in their behalf to see that full justice is done their case, President Wilson is being placed in a mighty precarious position in relation to his popularity with the entente,

or representative nations, as he will be placed in the position of dictator in this matter. It is one that requires diplomacy and tact in the handling, as the entente nations will have to relinquish their former plans and renig on their promises, one to the other, and this is not always an easy matter to accomplish graciously at the instigation of what seems to them a foreign intruder into their affairs, even though that foreigner is bound with them and to them with bonds of blood and spent steel.

It is not of the people of the nations involved and their opinions that I speak in this manner, but of the opinions of the statesmen of the nations engaged in the peace parleys and whose opinions will affect Mr. Wilson more easily in as much as he will be affected by their change of manner toward him as time goes on. This he will be able to discern, even though to the casual observer there will be no change in relations or cordiality. To a man of his caliber, who places justice and right above personal feelings, this change of attitude will affect him not one jot in what he feels is his duty to the world, nor will it cause him to swerve one atom of a fraction from his purpose, but it will only prove to him that he was right in his perceptions when he saw what appeared to him to be his clear duty in being present personally at the conference until it closed, and all pacts were assured of acceptance, even if in doing so he

imperiled his position and prestige in the eyes of some of his narrow-minded countrymen. This is big game that is being stalked, and care must be taken that the hunter is ready at the logical moment, and his aim must be true else he himself fall victim to the others cunning in an unguarded moment.

I know and can verify my knowledge by personal vision and insight now that Mr. Wilson is a match for any of the statesmen abroad, but that clearness of mind and knowledge of technics would avail him nothing if he were not personally present at Paris to deal directly with the men in person and to handle all questions as they come up for discussion at first hand. This is not a time when the affairs involving the future of America and her freedom in all lines, as well as the freedom of the world, should be left in the hands of secondary agents, but it is the duty of the highest in the land to see that no loophole of injustice is left to bring about cause for contention later.

INDEMNITY

Another question that will cause strained relations, though not a rupture, will be the President's clear stand on what he considers just or unjust claims and deals against German territory and Germany in general. In this matter more ill-feeling will be engendered than in any other issue brought up before the board, as the allied nations expect to bring exorbitant claims

against the former empire, and these he feels he cannot in all justice sanction. This will cause much discussion and many opinions will be freely expressed on this same question throughout the whole world, but no matter which way the pendulum of public opinions swing, he will stand firm in this one respect, as it involves the future peace of the world in a larger sense than it is looked upon today.

If Germany is given justice and is not forced to bankrupt her resources to pay the debts incurred by her militant leaders who had usurped the powers of the throne for their own exploitation, she will in time settle down to become a normal, well directed republic, for the people and ruled by the people, and a credit to the world, but if the reverse policy is shown her and she is forced into practical serfdom through taxation of heavy indemnity claims that will take years and years to settle, her people will lose all incentive to settle down and begin their lives upon a new plan under a peaceful régime, but revolt upon revolt will ensue that will in time react upon all of Europe, though its fangs will never be strong or long enough to penetrate far into America's shores.

GERMANY'S MORAL DEBT

The outrages perpetrated in the name of war can never be repaid by money, nor can the lives sacrificed to war be paid for by the golden

medium. This money that will be claimed then can only salve the wounds, for could its power heal the wounds and assuage the broken hearts left in war's wake I would feel grieved for the people indeed. It would be a step downward, I can assure you, if the people who lost and suffered through the war could be satisfied through a mere monetary settlement, high as money values are held upon the earth.

The debt that Germany owes to the world is one that cannot be paid in gold, or in reparation of any nature, as it is not within her power or power of any living man to restore to the nations their flowering young manhood so sadly sacrificed to war, or can she pay to herself the debt she owes her own subjects for the loss of their kin as well. True, she can pay enough to restore, in a way, devastated districts and ravaged industrial plants and help build up the home lands in general, but her greatest payment, and one that will go the farthest in paying her debt to the world, will be her joining in accord with other nations in making the world a safe place, by first making herself a safe nation for all the world to trust and then helping to bring everlasting peace and brotherhood among the nations with the nations of the whole universe. This she can do without loss to herself of either prestige or honor, as she holds neither in the eyes of the world today, but through such a compact she could gain both.

CHAPTER XXIX

U. S. AND THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

IT is up to America to either get in or stay out—getting into the league she loses nothing and gains much, much in the way that she retains her prestige and her honor before the world, loses nothing because she stakes nothing, and it's a winning game at that. If she stays out on the advice of those too narrow to see the whole at one time, she loses, as I say, her prestige and her honor, and that means practically everything to a nation, and she holds on tight to her Monroe Doctrine, a doctrine that has stood much abuse from politicians mousing its phrases and not understanding one item of their real meaning. That doctrine is an elastic one and can be stretched in need to meet and fit in with most any argument, but it would not be worth more than the proverbial scrap of paper if it had nothing behind it to enforce its meaning on the world, as the wording itself is not formidable enough to scare any nation with designs upon the territories it covers if the United States armed forces were not visualized between the lines.

America holds herself as being splendidly isolated on account of her ocean boundaries,

but she has territory on the south that could easily be invaded by foreign powers and used as a base to work against her, and it would take more than a standing army of 500,000 to parole and protect that boundary against invaders if they were invaders with a determination and will behind them.

It is just such possibilities as that one boundary possesses that calls for America's joining into the league, not that she need ever fear that her armies could not handle the situation if presented to them, but why not take the steps necessary to avoid such a possibility?

MONROE DOCTRINE AND MEXICO

There again is a question that the Monroe Doctrine covers in some ways. It gives protection to the lawless elements in Mexico in their uprising against foreign residents there, as America is loathe to enter into that country as an invader, even against the lawless element in defense of her own citizens, and she surely does not go in defense of foreigners quartered there, and the doctrine does not admit of foreign invasion by allowing armed forces of foreign land to enter and demand reparation, or war that would in the end lead to conquest, and so guerilla tactics go on unmolested, and he who kills and wins is hero for the time until another supersedes him through better aim or more powerful followers.

This we know has been going on for years, and as America suffers little from invaders and the troubles brewing constantly, not verging too near her borders, she rightly deems it none of her affair to interfere in an aggressive manner, and in this she is right, in so far that to sacrifice American blood to save that land for itself would be almost as futile as pouring water, water more precious than gold, because of its scarcity on the desert, from a water bottle onto the sands to make them bloom, because one would be gaining as much as would spilling American blood in Mexico accomplish now, unless one went at it on the same plan as watering the desert would have to be gone after, through running a river upon it by irrigation could the desert be made to bloom, and by sending such forces into Mexico that they would over-run the country as a flood, and by taking over the government and running it under America's sheltering wing until the people could prove their power to run it themselves in a proper and law-abiding manner and holding them as subjects of the United States, answering to her laws and to her authorities until that time of freedom for herself should come, would be the only way that I can see to bring about law and order and safety into Mexico, but this, of course, is not a question for immediate settlement, but I suggest it because of its relationship in the sponsorship America owes to Mexico

through her interpretation of the much discussed Monroe Doctrine.

MEXICO AND THE LEAGUE

There is no question but that she holds large responsibilities under the terms of that doctrine, but these would not have to be relinquished upon her entrance into the league, nor would the pact allow of any nation violating that document's terms; rather, on the contrary, the league would but strengthen America and lessen her responsibilities in that she would have no fear of violations occurring because of the fact that it is to settle just those questions of nations' rights before arbitration boards and giving each nation a chance to air their grievances before taking steps of more serious nature that the league will prove a protection rather than a detriment, and careful study will prove that I am right in my conjectures on this subject as I see it laid out before me now.

Not only will protection be afforded to the nations, large and small, against invasion without due warning, but many questions that arise during the course of time concerning what one nation may think is discrimination in trade channels and even tariff questions that might cause dispute could be settled under an international law or ruling, so that fairness to all would be the result. As the covenant stands

now, each nation would be given free right in all matters pertaining to her own questions in this regard, and with this I do not seek to interfere in my assertion that drawn issues could be submitted to the arbitration committee, but I wish to convey the suggestion for the value it may contain, as it is often these very small, insignificant grains of disputes that set the whole machinery of civilization at variance through war.

CHAPTER XXX

THE IRELAND QUESTION

AMERICA cannot rightfully interfere in the Irish settlement question at this or any other time, as that affair rests entirely between Ireland as a subject and England as the sovereign over her in rule. It would be as unwise for America to try and interfere in this age old feud as it would be for England to try and dictate or interfere between America and her possessions, as nothing gives the United States the right except Ireland's demands for freedom to become a republic of free men, under their own home rule.

They will in time gain their independence and their freedom from British power, but will find that freedom alone does not bring success and settlement of all difficulties at the same stroke. Able leaders and brilliant minds a plenty are to be found in that small isle as well as noble-hearted sons of toil, but, too, there will be found a class ready to hoist itself, if not deterred, into control as soon as freedom shall be established, and it is a great problem to separate the sheep from the wolves in camouflaged wool, because once in power it seems almost impossible to eradicate the breed.

England would do well to set this island free as part of her peace program. By doing so she would receive renewed prestige as a nation believing in truer justice to all her possessions or colonies because of their aid in her critical moments, though some little disturbances may have rippled the tranquil waters of peaceful relationship between the child and parent through fault of a slight few, but not the majority.

IN ENGLAND

England has many problems of her own to settle, not including this greater question, as peace did not seem to come to her at home with the signing of the armistice; rather on the contrary labor problems seemed to become paramount, and confusion reigned where had been organized system for the winning of the war, a result of unexpected peace conditions and no preparations made to combat the reverse situation brought about through peace in the doing away with many positions made necessary through war's demands, thus throwing many out of employment who were receiving a goodly wage in war work and who were not willing to take up different work readily and at a vastly reduced wage.

Idleness always begets trouble. It is only the busy in brain or body, busy in useful undertaking, that are contented and happy with

life as they find it, and it is one of the big problems of nations to keep its people in just that contented and happy state of being.

UNIVERSAL PEACE

It is not my object to try and solve the problems of the internal troubles of foreign nations, and so I will go no farther with this subject than to add that I am looking forward to a day of universal peace, not only throughout the world, but throughout each nation as well. Each has its own problems to solve, and each must solve them in its own way.

Ireland feels justified in looking to America for help in her struggle, even demanding that help as her right, but America cannot be held sponsor or arbitrator for the world's enthralled or down-trodden people when there is no just cause for her interference, and it is only when the peoples cry out for help through unjust treatment and brutality towards them that she can reasonably assume a dictatorship in their behalf, and certainly this is not the case in this instance.

CUBA

In going to the help of down-trodden and starving Cuba she did so through purely humanitarian motives and because they were in need of help and sustenance, and even this purely charitable expedition led to unforeseen

entanglements. America has always been a friend in need to the oppressed throughout the world without regard to nation, race or creed, and she will never fail a needy one in their call to her if that need be manifest; even Germany, that nation despised now of all the world, will not cry in vain for mercy and justice if that call be just.

LOST HOPE

Certainly no country will have had greater need of a sign of a friendly hand extended through the darkness of despair and the black waters of oblivion of prestige, honor and power as a nation among the great than will Germany in her newer state of rejuvenation, as a republic out from under the Kaiser rule.

Greater punishment cannot come to man or nation than the loss of all hopes. To have staked all, taking a gambler's chance of winning high stakes and then losing everything at one fell swoop is one of the greatest and most calamitous blows that could fall on man or nation, as it brings in its wake either of two evils—oblivion that is merciful in comparison to degradation. That is why many men who fail in what should have proved great undertakings often take their lives rather than face the world as failures. They seek what they believe will be oblivion in preference to facing degradative thoughts within others, directed

towards themselves, which though not always put into word form still can be felt by he upon whom these thoughts are directed.

In cases of this kind where the principal to the tragedy leaves kindred behind, he feels that he is doing them a justice in making away with himself and leaving them free to carry on without the blot of his presence to retard them, and so it is with nations as with individuals. When the structure falls the ruler who has been the cause of disaster should obliterate himself in a manner that would cause the least discussion, and should leave his people free to remake their lives and their nation without his retarding presence or shadow as a dark, foreboding cloud ever on the horizon, darkening their skies for all time.

CHAPTER XXXI

CLEAR VISION

PROBLEMS that to me seemed, while on earth, complicated and hard to unravel to reach and grasp their true meaning are to me like an open book with well written pages.

Death lends clear vision and true insight to the mind once befogged and clouded. The glamour and gilt of life vanishes with death's call, and bare and naked she stands clear and readable in all her phases to the spirit eye.

Minds of men, and hearts, where lie hidden deep secrets and emotions, lay bare to spirit eye. Friends who called themselves that to us while we still were in physical life have been put to the test and found worthy or not by this ability of being able to read the heart, and, thank God, I still can say that I was blessed with true friends whose friendship extended deeper than mere expression and courtesy. I would rather have known one such true friend on earth than to have gained riches far surpassing anything yet known. A friend whose friendship lies in the heart is a possession rare and priceless, more so than any jewel that glows and glitters. Few ever gain this rare jewel, and few possess the power to be-

come such a one. To those of my friends to whom I wish to pay this tribute from spirit land, I wish to say, God be with you through the days and nights of your iniquity, and may He bless and lead you into paths of righteousness and light, preparing you to enter the spirit state without fear of a past to bring shadow over the future for a time long in eternity.

REJOICE WITH ME

Mourn not for me that I am gone from your midst, rather rejoice with me at my entrance into the spirit state, where freedom from bodily ills and fetterments of the body are the reward, and where the soul is pure in thought or deed through the clear vision made possible by this state of transition. I have lived, enjoyed prestige and power such as is allotted few on earth. I lived, I loved, ran the gamut of human emotions, lived my few years filling each one of them full to the brim with experiences of wide range and color, and then when at last death called, I passed away with him, quietly and unobtrusively, without struggle or display, and so closed the last chapter of my eventful life on earth, but not so my spirit or inner life.

It was not that I wished to go at that time; rather would I have prolonged my journey had I dared. To me mortal life held much of what I considered unfulfilled duties in the interests of my country and my fellow men, but in that

I was mistaken, else had I a mission unfulfilled on earth I would not have been called from the ranks as I was.

DEATH'S CHOOSING

Death does not choose at random, but with well defined and careful system, choosing those upon whom God has laid the finger of approval as ready for the great adventure into the unknown. Each has a mission to fulfill, and each is allotted a specified time in which to carry out God's plan, be he or she tiny babe who only gasps and passes away, or be they gray haired and tottering, feeble and trembling with age. Rail not at death's decrees and think not that God has forsaken His world when a loved one falls under the reaper's hand. Rather, if only the understanding were there, rejoice that one you loved was thought worthy enough to be called after their life's mission was done, and so live and adjust your life that you, too, friend, foe or loved one left behind, may become worthy of following into the land of spirit life.

MY PLEA

I ask no greater boon than that the work I have put into these written pages shall not be for naught, but that they may reach far out to carry the messages I have tried to convey, through the only method I found at my command, and through the power conveyed by God

upon this medium whose very obscurity of fame will tend to throw shadow of doubt as to the authenticity of this as being of my composition through spirit power, but to those who knew me best my voice and manner of address will be apparent throughout this volume, and no greater proof can I offer than this—my spirit thoughts expressed in words.

IN CLOSING

I can go no further, or deeper, into the intricacies of the peace program as it is being formulated today without betraying diplomatic secrets that are not ready for public perusal, or do I care to go further in giving opinions upon other matters and questions arising daily in America and abroad at this time. I have touched upon what I consider some of the more important issues of the day, not, perhaps, quoting opinions of the same caliber as would have been my expressions if I had still my earthly vision, but while with transition vision has changed, mode of expression and of handling a subject in my own particular way has not deserted me, nor been cast off with my bodily coating.

My spirit stands today as indomitable in will as was it on earth, though clothed in different raiment. Though my body may moulder in the grave, my spirit lives on, ever in the service of the land I held so dear, and ever ready to

do its bidding to the best of my ability. Long may my work live in the land that gave me birth, and may that memory remain in the eyes of all as of one who was above all a real though rugged American. Rough and ready, but loyal ever. To all I bid good-by. March 12, 1919.

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